Trade and Industry

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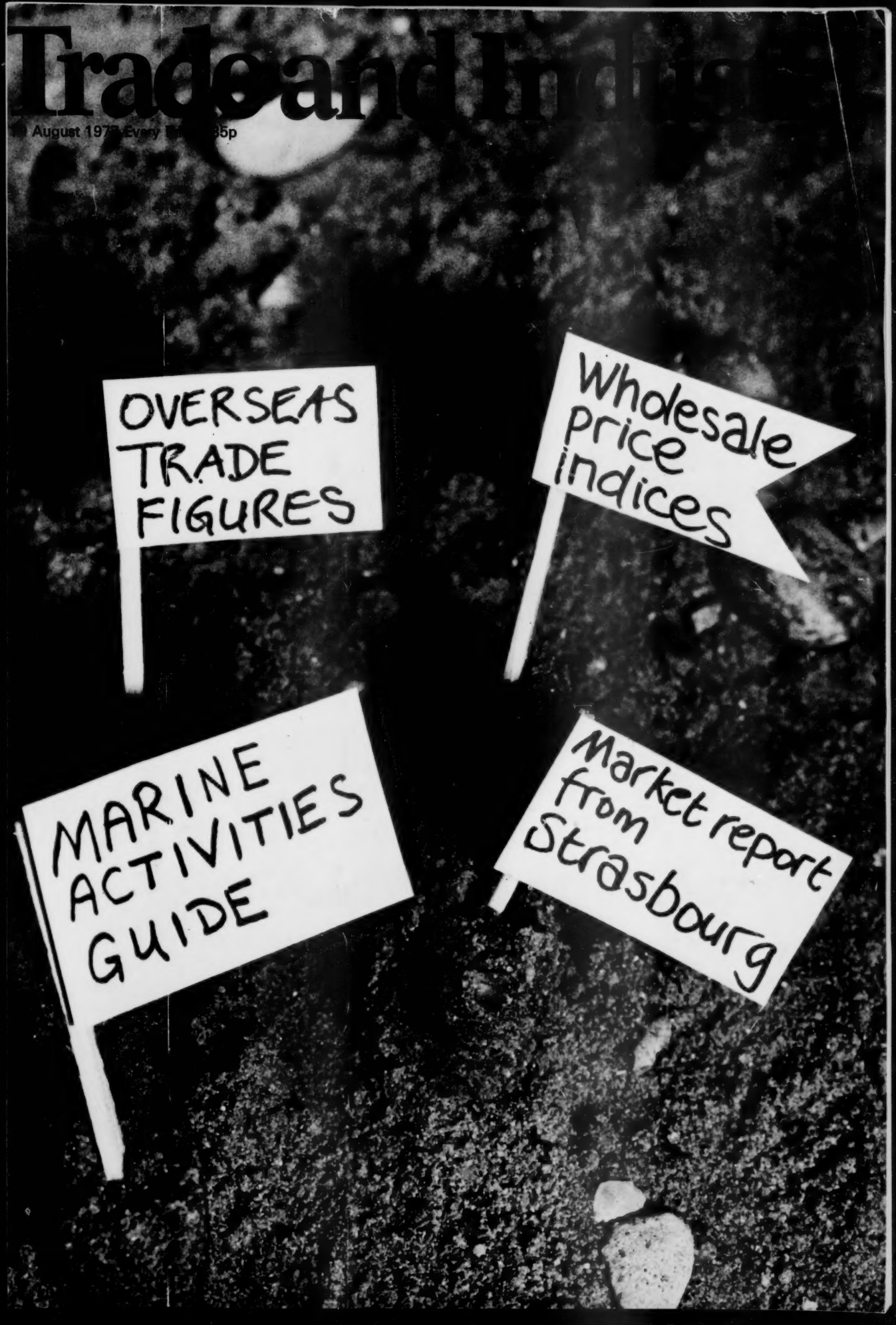

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Departmental guide

9 September
Market report: Spain

16 September
Market report: south-west France

23 September
Professional services overseas

7 October
Government support for industry

14 October
Trade promotions guide

21 October
Special report: Netherlands

18 November
Special report: Northern region

Trade and Industry

19 August 1977

News from the Departments of Industry·Trade·Prices & Consumer Protection

Finding your way round the many government departments and agencies responsible for marine matters should be easier with the Department of Trade's new marine activities guide (see page 306). Main articles this week include a market report from Strasbourg (page 322), and statistics on overseas trade (page 331) and wholesale prices (page 337). Photo: Trevor Godfree

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Editorial
Room 439 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET
Telex 8811074 answer back DT1HQ G LONDON

Editorial inquiries		01-215 5730
Editor	Alan Williams	01-215 5653
Deputy editor	Gillian Samuel	01-215 5620 01-215 5654
Home news and technology	Peter Curtis *Jennifer Clarke*	01-215 3019 01-215 5074
European community and overseas trade	Alex Mayne-Reid *Geoff Heaford*	01-215 3016 01-215 3006
Art, pictures and statistics	Bob Priestley	01-215 3118
Business manager	John Bentley	01-215 3388
Assistant business manager	Laura Kaufman	01-215 5656
Circulation control	Christine Swinyard	01-215 5021

Advertisements
T. G. Scott & Son Ltd., 1 Clement's Inn, London WC2A 2ED

Display sales office manager	Mike White	01-242 6264
Classified sales		01-405 4743

Subscriptions: HMSO, PO Box 569, London SE1 01-928 6977 ext. 472

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HOME

Government marine activities guide published

Quick reference for executives in the shipping and offshore industries, and companies supplying the offshore industry is provided by *Marine Activities: Guide to the responsibilities of government departments and agencies*, published yesterday (18 August).

Prepared by the inderdepartmental committee on marine safety, under the chairmanship of the Department of Trade, it sets out succinctly the main subjects involving government departments and agencies in shipping, offshore oil and gas exploration and exploitation, and other activities around the coast of the United Kingdom. Its publication has been timed to coincide broadly with the laying of the order in council on 4 August (*Trade and Industry*, 12 August, page 269) which provided for the Health and Safety Commission to assume responsibility for the occupational safety of workers in the offshore oil and gas industry, including divers.

The guide says that the large and complex offshore industry which has been built up in this country since oil and gas were first discovered in the United Kingdom continental shelf only 10 years or so ago has added a completely new dimension to Britain's historic involvement in the sea. The problems and ramifications of such massive and extraordinarily rapid development of our offshore oil and gas resources are novel, varied and wide-ranging. They cut across many spheres of interest and responsibility, and they have inevitably increased the areas of contact between government departments themselves and these departments and industry.

No attempt is made to provide answers to specific problems. The guide's purpose is to direct the reader to the government departments which can. Part 1 lists in alphabetical order items under **shipping**, from accommodation vessels to submersibles and supply ships; **offshore oil and gas exploration**, from accidents to storage and use of radioactive materials on offshore rigs; and **other subjects**, from aggregate prospecting to submarine cable laying. Part 2 contains a bibliography covering the subjects set out in the first part, and part 3 sets out the government departments and agencies with their overall responsibilities, addresses and telephone numbers. It concludes with several pages listing the main legislation applying to the subjects covered.

* 'Marine activities – Guide to the responsibilities of government departments and agencies', HMSO, price £1.

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Loan terms for co-operatives

Terms under which small loans will be made available to manufacturing co-operatives for the next five years are set out in regulations laid before parliament on Wednesday (17 August) by Bob Cryer, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Industry. The regulations come into force on 1 October.

The main points of the regulations are:

- the grant-assisted loans may be made to common ownership and co-operative enterprises which are wholly or mainly engaged in manufacturing industry;
- the purpose of the loan shall be to assist with fixed and working capital requirements in respect of an identified project which must have a reasonable chance of success;
- prior approval of the secretary of state must be obtained for loans of above £7,500;
- adequate security must be proved to ensure the repayment of loans;
- interest on loans must not be at a lower rate than that specified by the secretary of state;
- the relevant trade unions must be consulted before the making of a loan.

Under the provisions of the Industrial Common ownership Act 1976 the secretary of state is empowered to make grants and loans within a maximum total of £250,000 over five years to assist suitable organisations to make loans to common ownership and co-operative enterprises in manufacturing industry.

It is intended that the whole of the loan fund shall be administered by the Industrial Common Ownership Finance Ltd.

Repair facilities for British Shipbuilders

British Shipbuilders announced on Tuesday (16 August) that it has acquired P and O's shiprepair facilities in London, Tilbury and Falmouth. The companies concerned are R. and H. Green and Silley Weir Ltd and Silley Cox Ltd, and their respective subsidiaries.

British Shipbuilders has also made an offer to the shareholders of the London Graving Dock Co Ltd of 45p per share which will be accepted by the company's directors who hold 2.26 per cent of the issued share capital and who recommend acceptance by the other shareholders. Institutional investors, holding 72 per cent of the issued share capital, have also indicated their intention to accept the offer.

It is the intention of British Shipbuilders that, when the offer for London Graving Dock becomes unconditional, the interests of the company be merged with those of Green and Silley Weir to form a new company operating all the interests of British Shipbuilders on the river Thames. The Falmouth company will remain a separate operating unit, keeping the name of Silley Cox, and reporting direct to British Shipbuilders.

Peters Aviation appeal dismissed

Edmund Dell, Secretary of State for Trade, has dismissed an appeal by Peters Aviation Ltd against the Civil Aviation Authority's decision not to grant an application to provide a scheduled service on the route Norwich-Heathrow and/or Gatwick, but to grant Air

Anglia's application in the form of a licence Norwich-Heathrow. The Peters Aviation appeal followed a CAA hearing on 25 and 26 November last year.

New EIEC chairman appointed

Secretary of State for Industry, Eric Varley, has appointed Arthur Geoffrey Robinson as chairman of the English Industrial Estates Corporation (EIEC) with effect from 19 November.

Mr Robinson is the managing director of the Tees and Hartlepool Port Authority and a member of the National Dock Labour Board. He will succeed Sir Horace Heyman who will be retiring as chairman after seven years in the post.

Technical advances to cut freight energy use

There is little prospect that policy decisions about freight transport would be likely to lead to significant savings of energy in the short term. Important savings should, however, be capable of being achieved gradually over a period of years from technical and operational advances, mainly as vehicles are replaced. This conclusion and wide ranging proposals for cutting the amount of energy used by freight transport are put forward in a report* published on 15 August.

The report has been prepared by the transport working group of the Advisory Council on Energy Conservation. It sets out the problems to be considered and aims to promote a wider interest in and understanding of energy conservation in freight transport. Energy saving developments proposed by the report are:

- higher rates of licensed vehicle duty on petrol-engined freight vehicles up to 1½ tons should be considered to encourage a switch to diesel engined vehicles;
- design changes to heavier, diesel lorries could improve fuel consumption by 15 per cent;
- there would be fuel savings, without greater damage to roads, if weight restrictions on vehicles were eased;
- the government should actively encourage research into the use of electric batteries for road vehicles;
- the electrification of that part of the railway system which is expected to be in substantial use for the foreseeable future should be a policy objective; and
- when traffic management schemes which restrict the movement of freight vehicles are being considered, thought should be given to the fuel consumption penalty involved.

An energetic pursuit of the developments described, says the report, would result in an improved fuel consumption by freight vehicles, which would in turn, it is hoped, largely offset the additional fuel requirements from the expected growth in freight transport movements. But, at the best, it must be expected that there will be some increase in the total energy requirements for freight transport over the next 10-20 years.

* 'Report on freight transport: short and medium term energy considerations'; Energy Paper 24, published by the Department of Energy, HMSO, price £1.50.

Anti-waste schemes on show in Birmingham

A government scheme to assist the paper and board industry to increase their capacity for processing waste paper, and government support to the Tyne and Wear and South Yorkshire County Councils for the construction of two mechanical separation plants, will be described at the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham on 12 to 16 September. The work of the National Anti-Waste Programme will be on show for the first time at the International Reclamation and Disposal Exhibition.

Illustrated panels will emphasise the role of the programme in creating a national awareness of waste and encouraging all sectors of society to create a less wasteful, more reclamation-conscious attitude.

Government support for the programme will be featured. This includes research work at Warren Spring Laboratory, where a system for the large scale mechanical separation of household waste is being developed. A short film about this will be shown on the stand, with a fuller version on show at the Warren Spring Laboratory stand at the same exhibition. The waste materials exchange, run by the laboratory, which brings together waste producers and potential waste users, will be described.

OVERSEAS

New chairman for E. European trade council

It was announced on Monday (15 August) that Lord Shackleton, deputy chairman of the Rio Tinto Zinc Corporation Ltd, has accepted an invitation from Edmund Dell, Secretary of State for Trade to become chairman of the East European Trade Council in succession to Lord Kearton.

The East European Trade Council is an area advisory group of the British Overseas Trade Board. It is a government grant-aided financed body whose objective is the stimulation of trade with the Soviet Union and other countries of eastern Europe.

Lord Shackleton, who is also a member of the BOTB, will be taking up his duties as chairman of the council on 1 September.

Direct-dialling to Brazil

Dr Roberto Campos, the Brazilian Ambassador, inaugurates the Post Office's new direct-dialling service to Brazil by telephoning Mr Edmund Dell, Secretary of State for Trade, who is on an official visit to Brazil, from the London Stock Exchange on Tuesday.

STATISTICS

Big spending at hotels and holiday camps

Turnover at licensed hotels and holiday camps increased in value by 22 per cent in April, May and June compared with the correspondingperiod last year.

But public houses' trade increased by only 7 per cent. This was partly due no doubt to the marked difference in weather in the two periods, especially in June. Restaurants, cafes and fish and chip shops increased their turnover by 10 per cent and canteens by 11 per cent.

The overall increase in catering trades turnover was 11 per cent, comparing the second quarter this year with the same quarter last year at current prices, not seasonally adjusted.

Compared with the first quarter this year, second quarter catering turnover at current prices and after seasonal adjustment was 3 per cent higher.

The figures were released by the Department of Trade on Monday. Background data will be given in the Statistics section in next week's *Trade and Industry*.

Home news

NEB: only modest investment in industry possible

Since the total funds available to the National Enterprise Board under the Industry Act 1975 are £1,000 million for all purposes, the NEB says that it is clear that it can only make a modest contribution to the provision of finance for industrial investment. So far as small companies are concerned, it will clearly not be practicable for it to make more than a limited number of investments each year as compared with the 69 000 manufacturing enterprises employing 200 people or less. The NEB believes it must therefore be selective, and concentrate its resources where they are most likely to bring benefits to the United Kingdom's economy.

This assessment of its ability to contribute to a solution of the identifiable problems in providing finance for industry, particularly for smaller companies, was given by the NEB on 10 August in a memorandum to the Committee to Review the Functioning of Financial Institutions (the Wilson Committee). The committee is examining, in the first stage of its work, the arrangements for channelling savings in the economy into industry and trade. In seeking evidence on the parts played by the various institutions providing funds through the banking system and the capital markets, the committee has so far received submissions or background material from 125 bodies.

As far as smaller companies are concerned, the NEB says it is prepared to consider, on its merits, any proposal from a company which would appear to make a worthwhile contribution to promoting exports and the manufacture of import-substitution products; to developing manufacturing industries round new types of product; and to improving employment, particularly in the assisted areas.

The NEB operates along strictly commercial lines and is unable to provide grants or 'soft' money of any kind. Its loan rates are broadly comparable to those of the commercial banks. The NEB's primary concern is the provision of long-term finance, particularly risk capital, and it is able to take a long-term view in investing in promising situations, provided above-average returns are in prospect eventually.

When appraising an application from a company, the NEB is less concerned with size or profitability at the outset than with future potential. Typically, it is looking for a company that is capable with its equity and gearing corrected and with any necessary management strengthening, of raising its turnover to several million pounds in three to five years, however small the initial starting point.

Although the NEB believes that it approaches this task in a rather distinctive fashion, it would not pretend that its contribution can be more than a partial solution to the problems which have been identified. It is possible to make various estimates, on differing assumptions, of the funds required, from external and internal sources, to finance investment in fixed and working capital by companies in manufacturing industry over the next few years. In the case of public quoted companies (ie the larger manufacturing companies), the requirement (on any reasonable assumption) runs to several thousand millions of pounds a year. The requirements of smaller companies must be very much a matter for speculation.

Minister examines apple prices

John Fraser, Minister of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, investigated the cause of high apple prices in a visit to London's Covent Garden fruit and vegetable market on 11 August. After talking to traders, he said that he was quite certain that there had been no profiteering. Apple prices, he said, should fall by about 25 per cent in the next few weeks as the English crop reached the market.

Boost for Welsh construction industry

Additional public expenditure of £5 million is being provided for projects to assist the construction industry in Wales out of the additional £100 million construction expenditure announced by the Chancellor of the Exchequer on 15 July. All the additional expenditure will be incurred during the current financial year.

In announcing this latest package John Morris, the Secretary of State for Wales, said that this additional public expenditure was further evidence of the government's determination to assist the construction industry which had been facing considerable difficulties during the period of economic restraint and to reduce unemployment. The projects covered a wide field of activities and the direct benefits would extend throughout Wales. The projects chosen for assistance could be started very quickly and were of a type which could assist construction firms of all sizes, from the very small to the very large, as well as providing help to services with particularly pressing needs.

Tackling oil spills

How the government proposed dealing with oil spills at sea, has been set out in a statement by Denis Howell, Minister of State, Department of the Environment. A report, *Accidental Oil Pollution of the Sea**, drawn up by an interdepartmental group of officials under the leadership of the Department of the Environment's central unit on environmental pollution and published in September last year, invited comment from those interested in or affected by its conclusions and recommendations.

The government, he said, had accepted that the central objective of a clean-up policy should be to minimise pollution damage to sea birds, fisheries, ecologically sensitive areas and amenity beaches. It had also accepted the report's conclusion that, at present, the spraying of oil with dispersants was the only method of dealing with spills proven to be really effective in the seas surrounding the United Kingdom. However systems for the containment and recovering of oil were under active research and development in the United Kingdom, and the United Kingdom was in touch with other countries about their experience with such equipment.

Generally, he continued, where an oil spill was not causing or threatening damage, it was preferable for it to be allowed to evaporate and degrade naturally. Although the use of dispersants would for the present continue to form the basis of the response capability at sea, it would, as the report recommends, be initiated only where there was, in the judgement of experts, a significant threat of damage to birds, marine life or the coast, or where an operator con-

* 'Accidental Oil Pollution of the Sea.' Pollution Paper No. 8, HMSO, price £2.05.

sidered it necessary for safety reasons. Where treatment was judged to be necessary, the strategy would be to clean-up at sea and the response capability there would be developed as the major line of defence.

As recommended, Mr Howell said, the government would continue to expect the operating companies to make appropriate provision to deal with spills from offshore fixed installations, such as platforms and pipelines, and during stationary operations, such as the ship-to-ship transfer of oil, their plans being subject to examination by the relevant departments, trade and energy. Guidelines on the content of such plans and on the circumstances determining appropriate action were being issued, he said. Operator's standby safety vessels were in future to be equipped with spraying kits and dispersants.

The government would, as the report suggested, distribute its own resources for combating oil pollution at sea according to the degree of pollution risk thought to exist in different sea areas.

Research along lines suggested by the report was already being conducted by the Department of Industry's Warren Spring Laboratory into the possibilities of successfully recovering oil by mechanical means, techniques of aerial surveillance of slicks and the fate of oil at sea. The government intended this work to continue, in addition to the ecological surveys and research on the toxicity of oil to marine organisms now being carried out in various government and other laboratories.

Co-ordination between government departments, environmental interests and industry would continue to be centred on the standing committee on pollution clearance at sea which reports to the Secretary of State for Trade. Consideration was being given to widening the remit and duties of this body in the light of the report's recommendations, Mr Howell concluded.

Call for oil rig blow-out contingency plans by energy minister

Blow-out contingency plans of all offshore operators are being called for by Dr Dickson Mabon, Minister of State for Energy, so that the preparedness of each operator to deal with a blow-out at his installation can be assessed.

The first priority, Dr Mabon said, was to prevent oilspills from offshore oil and gas production and exploration and when the report of the Norwegian commission of inquiry into the Ekofisk Bravo blow-out was available his department would review its findings as a matter of urgency so that any appropriate lessons could be perceived and, as necessary, implemented. Together with the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Companies, Aviation and Shipping he attended a meeting of North Sea states in Oslo on 21 and 22 June 1977 and the government would be playing a full role in strengthening and developing national and international arrangements to deal with oilspills.

The review should be completed by end August for currently producing oilfields and those companies engaged in exploration or development drilling. Pending this review, no decision had been taken on the possible requirement for specialist emergency vessels or equipment to deal with blow-outs on the United Kingdom continental shelf, Dr Mabon said.

VAT bad debt relief

Treasury ministers have asked HM Customs and Excise to hold discussions with interested organisations about the problems of providing relief from value added tax for bad debts. As a start to these consultations Customs and Excise have prepared a discussion paper on which they invite comments. Anyone who would like a copy of the paper should apply to HM Customs and Excise, Room 213, Knollys House, 11 Byward Street, London EC3R 5AY, tel. 01-626 1515, ext. 3411 or 3333. Comments should be submitted by mid-October if possible and by mid-November at the latest.

Future air freight policy

Proposals on how both scheduled and charter freight services should develop were published on 3 August by the Civil Aviation Authority. In this consultative document* the authority sets out its policy objectives:

- to ensure that scheduled freighters are operated on a fully remunerative basis;
- to ensure that belly-hold capacity on passenger aircraft is fully exploited, and in particular before freighters are introduced on the routes in question;
- to offer rates to shippers and forwarders which discriminate between consignments only in respect of the identifiable costs of providing the service; and
- to enable the passenger-carrying airlines to compete effectively in the air freight market with charter and other specialist freight carriers, with a minimum of regulatory support.

As a guiding principle the authority believes that the general level of scheduled service freight rates should be based on the fully-allocated costs of all-cargo services. But on routes with considerable excess belly-hold capacity rates should be allowed to find their own level, maximising the use of belly-hold capacity and the contribution made by freight revenues.

The authority finds the present structure of scheduled service freight rates unsatisfactory. It concludes that a radically new approach is needed with a rate structure based on a single general cargo (freight all kinds) rate with modifications justified by differential costs of carriage. The authority hopes that its proposals on scheduled service freight rates will assist in achieving more balanced competition between the scheduled and charter sectors of the air freight market.

A number of changes in the present charter regulatory regime are proposed by the authority in the document. It is proposed to replace the present system of capacity control related to specific overseas destinations by an aggregate control defined in terms of the total number of flights between all pairs of points between which charter cargo is carried.

* 'Air Freight Policy: a consultation document' (CAP 405), price £1.50. Available from CAA, 37 Gratton Road, Cheltenham, Glos., or by personal callers from the CAA Central Library, Aviation House, 129 Kingsway, London WC2B 6NN.

European theme for annual conference

Birmingham's National Exhibition Centre has been chosen by the British Standards Institution for its annual conference – 'Company Standards – New Challenges from Home and Abroad' – from 20 to 21 October.

Several prominent speakers will concentrate on a European theme. They include Mr E. E. Williams of the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection, who will consider the effects of EEC directives on UK legislation. An interesting parallel will be drawn by Dr H. Reihlen, director of the Deutsches Institut für Normung, who is to express the German views on standards and national legislation. Procedures for meeting overseas technical requirements and regulations – a field in which BSI is particularly active through its Technical Help to Exporters scheme – will also be discussed.

Other important topics will include the operation and implementation of the Health and Safety Act and the reshaping of company standards necessary to meet the many challenges that are now an everyday part of modern industry and commerce.

Supporting events include the annual general meeting of BSI Standards Associates on 20 October, which will be followed by a reception and the annual course dinner. Full details are available from Miss Vivienne Ruff, BSI Standards Associates, 2 Park Street, London W1A 2BS.

Official appointments

Gas Consumers' Council: Roy Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, has appointed Mrs L. Hobbs, Miss M. McCusker, Mr J. Oliver and Councillor R. P. D. Runciman as members of the Scottish Gas Consumers' Council until 31 May 1980.

Central Transport Consultative Committee: Roy Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, has appointed Mr W. F. Higgins as chairman of the Central Transport Consultative Committee Area from 1 August 1977 until 31 July 1980.

Cumbrian factories extended . . .

A two storey office block extension of about 530 m² (5700 sq ft) to the premises occupied by Smith Brothers (Whitehaven) Ltd at Hensingham, Whitehaven, Cumbria, is being built by the English Industrial Estates Corporation. An additional 14 people are expected to be employed through this expansion.

The company, which employs over 1000 people in West Cumbria, is one of the country's leading flexible packaging producers. Smith Brothers expansion includes an increasing proportion of export business. Countries supplied include the United States, most European countries, Algeria, Nigeria, South Africa and Malaysia.

The English Industrial Estates Corporation is to build, also, a further extension of about 1100 m² (12 000 sq ft) to the premises occupied by Egremont Tubes Ltd at Hensingham, Whitehaven, Cumbria. The company, a member of the Mardon Packaging Group, manufacture composite containers and cable reels. A further 22 jobs should eventually be created by this expansion.

. . . and new factories for Cheshire and Lancashire

Work has been started on a 1350 m² (15 000 sq ft) advance factory for the Department of Industry on a site recently purchased by the department on the Overpool Industrial Estate, Ellesmere Port, Cheshire. The premises should be ready for occupation by January 1978.

Work has also started on a 900 m² (10 000 sq ft) advance factory for the Department of Industry on a site recently purchased by the department at Copse Road, Fleetwood, Lancs. The premises should be ready for occupation by February 1978.

Inquiries, regarding purchase or lease, should be addressed to Mrs P. Maxwell-Trow, Department of Industry, North West Region, Sunley Building, Piccadilly Plaza, Manchester M1 4BA, tel. 061-236 2171, ext. 646.

Conference to encourage smaller firms

The Scottish Council (Development and Industry) and the Scottish Development Agency, with the support of the Scottish New Towns and the Highlands and Islands Development Board, are jointly sponsoring a two-day conference on the theme 'Encouraging the Smaller Firm' to be held in Peebles Hydro on 14 and 15 September.

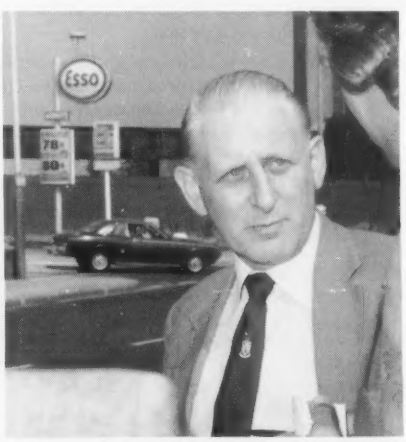
Speakers at the conference will include Gregor Mackenzie, Minister of State at the Scottish Office with responsibility for Industry, Lewis Robertson, chief executive of the Scottish Development Agency, Angus Grossart, managing director, Noble Grossart Ltd, Professor Kenneth Alexander, chairman, Highlands and Islands Development Board, Richard Burns, assistant secretary, Scottish Economic Planning Department and two executives from the industrial division of the Scottish Council, James Reid (manager – development) and John D. Anderson (marketing).

Conference chairmen are Ronald Taylor, chairman of Glenrothes Development Corporation and of Forth Alloys Ltd, Desmond Misselbrook, chairman of Livingston Development Corporation and of Anderson Strathclyde Ltd, and Sir William McEwan Younger, chairman of the international forum committee of the Scottish Council.

The conference is being organised by James Saunders, international forum manager of the Scottish Council (Development and Industry), 1 Castle Street, Edinburgh, EH2 3AJ, tel. 031-225 7911.

Fraser welcomes display of net petrol prices

John Fraser, Minister of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, on a tour of garages in south London. New regulations to control the display of petrol prices came into operation at midnight on 11 August. All garages will now have to indicate on or near every petrol pump the highest price of every grade of petrol dispersed from that pump. Commenting on the display of prices, Mr Fraser said that he was encouraged to note that most garages were already complying with the requirements of the order. He particularly welcomed the decision taken by most traders to display net prices only. This was the method he preferred and that, he was sure, was the clearest to the motorist. He was confident that from 12 August motorists throughout the country would have the benefit of straightforward, unambiguous price display.



New head for Patent Office

Edmund Dell, Secretary of State for Trade, has approved the appointment of Ivor Davis as Comptroller-General of the Patent Office. He will succeed Edward Armitage, the comptroller-general since 1969, who is retiring at the end of the year. Mr Davis is 51 and has been assistant comptroller of the industrial property and copyright department, a policy branch of the Patent Office, since 1973. He has been particularly concerned with international work in United Nations organisations active in these fields. He led the United Kingdom delegations at the diplomatic conferences on patent protection of micro-organisms in Budapest in April and the revision of the Nice agreement on trade mark classification in Geneva in May.

Patents endorsed 'licences of right'

Under section 35 of the Patents Act 1949 the following patents were endorsed 'licences of right' on the date specified.

5 August 1977

1243691 Agfa-Gevaert Aktiengesellschaft
Apparatus for joining films
1365691 Agfa-Gevaert Aktiengesellschaft
Photographic printing apparatus
1241303 Societe Anonyme Automobiles Citroen
Vehicle load responsive braking system
1285758 Societe Anonyme Automobiles Citroen
Improvements in or relating to door stop installations
1172890 Robert Henry Francis Jeffes
Spring tine cultivator
1291824 Robert Henry Francis Jeffes
Improvements in agricultural implement frames
1441579 EMI Ltd
Improvements relating to the cutting of modulated grooves in discs
1453439 TI Silencers Ltd
Catalytic reactor for exhaust emission control

Any person who claims that the patentee at the time of endorsement of any of the above patents was precluded by a contract in which claimant is interested from granting licences under the patents may apply for cancellation of the endorsement on patents form 45 within two months after the date of endorsement.

E. Armitage, Comptroller

Cancellation of 'licences of right' endorsement

Any person may give notice of opposition to the undermentioned application for cancellation of endorsement 'licences of right' under section 36 of the Patents Act 1949 by filing patents form 46 within one month from the date of this magazine.

1306857 Boonhor Khoo
Improvements in or relating to contact lenses

Under section 36 of the Patents Act 1949, notice is hereby given that the endorsement 'licences of right' upon the undermentioned patent was cancelled on 27 July.

1275886 Standard Telephones and Cables Ltd
Injection lasers
1407351 Standard Telephones and Cables Ltd
Injection lasers

E. Armitage, Comptroller

Insurance Companies Act 1974: authorisations and revocations

The following authorisations to carry on insurance business in Great Britain were issued by the Secretary of State for Trade under section 3(1) of the Insurance Companies Act 1974 during the period 1 to 31 July 1977:

Name of insurer and registered office or address in GB	Country of incorporation if outside GB	Date of authorisation	Class or classes of insurance business for which authorisation was issued
Folksam International Insurance Company (UK) Ltd Saddlers' Hall Gutter Lane London EC2V 6BS	—	15.7.77	LIAB, MAT PL, PA, PROP
INA Reinsurance Company (UK) Ltd 34/35 Leadenhall Street London EC3	—	12.7.77	LIAB, MAT, MV, PL, PA, PROP
MU Cambridge Insurance Company Ltd Knollys House 5th Floor 11 Byward Street London EC3	—	29.7.77	LIAB, MAT, MV, PL, PA, PROP

The following authorisations to carry on insurance business in Great Britain were revoked by the Secretary of State for Trade under section 9 of the Insurance Companies Act 1974 during the period 1 to 31 July 1977:

Name of insurer and registered office or address in GB	Country of incorporation if outside GB	Date of revocation	Class or classes of insurance business for which authorisation was revoked
C. T. Bowring and Co Ltd The Bowring Building PO Box 145 Tower Place London EC3P 3BE	—	25.7.77	LIAB, PL, PA, PROP
Hollandia Reinsurance Company of South Africa Ltd PO Box 130 Fountain House 130 Fenchurch Street London EC3P 3BD	South Africa	25.7.77	LIAB, MAT, MV, PL, PA, PROP
North Pacific Insurance Company Ltd Guardian Royal Exchange Assurance Group Royal Exchange London EC3P 3DN	Hong Kong	29.7.77	MAT
Portsmouth Glass Insurance Ltd c/o Thornton Baker and Co Charter House Lord Montgomery Way Portsmouth PO1 2RZ	—	25.7.77	PROP

Classes of business

I	Industrial assurance business
LIAB	Liability insurance business
MAT	Marine, aviation and transport insurance business
MV	Motor vehicle insurance business
OLT	Ordinary long term insurance business
PL	Pecuniary loss insurance business
PA	Personal accident insurance business
PROP	Property insurance business

Government sales

Ministry of Defence

31 August 1977—Miscellaneous

Location
The Bristol Esso Hotel, Filton Road, Hambrook, Bristol

Auctioneers
Russell Baldwin and Bright (Dept L), 19/21 King Street, Hereford (tel. 0432 55441)

Stores lying at Hereford, Aston Down and other depots including vehicles, machine tools, tyres, MT, electronic and aircraft spares, household-ware, furniture, carpets, blankets, clothing and textiles, and other miscellaneous items.

6 September 1977—Miscellaneous

Location
Ordnance Depot, Ruddington, near Nottingham

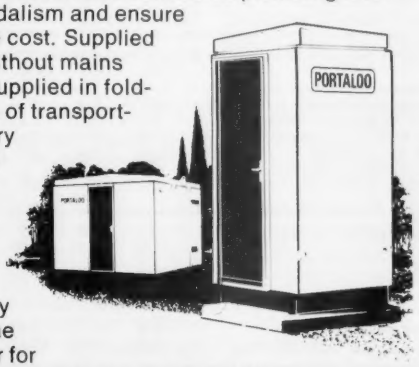
Auctioneers
Arnold and Son Ltd (Dept L), 13 Market Place, Burton-on-Trent (tel. 0283 64657)

The stores lying at various sites in the Midlands comprise aircraft spares, MT spares, furniture, tools, textiles, vehicles and other miscellaneous items.

Catalogues which give details of the lots, conditions of sale, viewing times, etc, are available from the auctioneers from two weeks before and up to the day of the sale, price 20p, postage 10p (postal orders only).

Sanitation...
PORTALOO toilet units

PORTALOO toilet units – completely flexible in size, layout and range of fittings to meet virtually any sanitary requirement. Steel construction and concealed plumbing and wiring resist vandalism and ensure low maintenance cost. Supplied for use with or without mains drainage. Also supplied in fold-flat form for ease of transportation with sanitary fittings as crated sub assemblies with pick-up connections. PORTALOO toilet units meet all local authority requirements. The complete answer for public conveniences, schools, parks, picnic sites, camp and caravan sites, gypsy encampments, and all construction and industrial sites. BUY OR HIRE.



Security...
PORTASTOR security units

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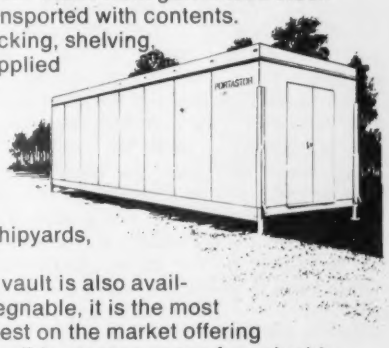

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The North Sea and the UK economy

With North Sea oil production now rising very fast, this two-part article,[1] explores the effect on the UK economy: the first part considers how the benefit of North Sea oil might be quantified and updates estimates of the potential effect on the balance of payments[2]; the second provides forecasts of income arising from offshore production of both gas and oil, and of capital and current expenditure within that 'sector'.

Measuring the benefit of North Sea oil

After many years of exploration, development, and capital expenditure in the North Sea, we are this year for the first time observing a very significant benefit to the UK economy. Production last year was about 11½ million tonnes. In the first half of this year it was about 17 million tonnes and for the year as a whole the 1977 Brown Book ('Development of the oil and gas resources of the United Kingdom 1977') envisages production of around 40 to 45 million tonnes.

Increased production of North Sea oil is already having an effect on the trade figures. In the second half of last year our visible trade deficit in oil (that is imports less exports as recorded in the monthly trade figures) was running at about £340 million a month. In the first half of this year it was running at about £270 million a month.

How much difference will this make to the UK economy? This is difficult to answer. But, without trying to be too precise, it is clear enough that these new resources will open up major new opportunities for the UK. One cannot be precise for two reasons. The first is simply the uncertainty that surrounds all forecasting. No one knows exactly what future levels of production will be, or future prices; we have to guess the future path of investment and how it will be financed. These uncertainties will ultimately be resolved by the passage of time and the efforts of the statisticians. But there is another kind of uncertainty: what would have happened to the UK economy if there had been no North Sea oil? All one can do is make simple, convenient assumptions: there is no uniquely correct way of doing the calculation.

[1] Published by the Treasury in this month's issue of *Economic Progress Report*.

[2] See *Economic Progress Report*, July 1976.

Balance of payments

In the July 1976 issue of *Economic Progress Report*, estimates were given of the potential balance of payments effects of the oil programme. These were based on the forecasts we then had for oil production, costs, investment and so on. They were also defined in terms of three key assumptions about the way the economy would have developed in the absence of oil:

1 The exchange rate would be the same, either with the oil or without it.
2 Unemployment would be the same either with the oil or without it.
3 The total UK demand for oil is unaffected by North Sea production.

The estimates therefore show the potential effect of the oil on the balance of payments if the whole benefit was taken in this way. For example, if the exchange rate is higher or unemployment lower because of the oil than it otherwise would have been, the actual effects on the balance of payments would not be as great as the potential effects defined in this way. This is a convenient way of measuring the scale of the benefit; it is not an attempt at a serious analysis of the options which face us now, or those which would have faced us if we had not had the oil. These are highly schematic assumptions, but the calculation requires one to be specific. We can now present figures on the same basis which update the estimates last year (see table 1). Like last year's figures they do not purport to show what will happen to the whole balance of payments, only the extent to which oil production might strengthen it.

These figures are all expressed in terms of 1976 prices, so the changes shown are changes in volume and not the consequence of inflation. The figures in parentheses are last year's estimates converted to constant prices on the basis of the price assumptions which were used in their preparation.

The general picture is very much as before. Up to the end of the decade the potential benefit to the balance of payments rises roughly in line with the volume of oil production (line 1). The imports of goods and services associated with the oil programme will probably be rather lower in volume by 1980 than they are this year (line 2). The imports displaced by the oil programme however (line 3) are on a rising trend. These factors therefore tend to increase the benefit.

On the other hand net income due abroad will be increasing (line 4), and some foreign currency borrowing by UK companies will be due for repayment (line 7). Between 1980 and 1985 the potential net benefit continues to rise strongly, although the growth of production is slowing down. This is partly because the share of imports on the costs of development and production is expected to fall. It is also a consequence of the assumption that the whole benefit has been taken on the balance of payments in earlier years. This would improve our external asset/liability position and hence the balance of interest receipts and payments.

Table 1 Potential balance of payments effects of the North Sea oil programme

£ billion at 1976 prices

Figures in parentheses are last year's estimates: discrepancies in totals are due to rounding.

	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1985
1 Oil exports/imports saved (including insurance and freight)	0.7	2.3	3.4	4.8	5.5	6.7
2 Imports of goods and services for North Sea programme[1]	−1.3	−1.0	−0.9	−1.0	−0.9	−0.5
3 Imports/exports displaced by North Sea oil programme	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.7	1.0
4 Interest, profits and dividends due overseas	—	−0.5	−0.7	−1.3	−1.6	−1.1
5 Net interest on official assets/liabilities (as measured by the cumulative total of 1-4 and 7)	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.5	0.6	1.5
6 Net effect on current account	**−0.1** (0.1)	**1.4** (1.1)	**2.7** (2.3)	**3.7** (3.6)	**4.3** (4.5)	**7.6** (8.9)
7 Net effect on capital account	1.0 (1.1)	0.7 (0.9)	0.7 (0.7)	0.8 (0.5)	0.7 (0.3)	−0.1 (0.1)
8 Net effect on overall balance of payments (6 + 7)	**0.9** (1.2)	**2.1** (1.9)	**3.4** (3.1)	**4.5** (4.1)	**4.9** (4.8)	**7.5** (8.9)

[1] The programme includes development, exploration and operating costs.

Table 2 Income from oil and gas production

£ billion at 1976 prices

	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1985
1 Oil and gas sold	1.0	2.7	3.9	5.3	6.0	7.5
2 Goods and services bought outside the 'sector'[1]	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.6
3 Employment income	—	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2
4 Total royalties plus profits before tax	0.8	2.4	3.5	4.9	5.6	6.5
5 *of which* interest, profits and dividends due abroad	0.1	0.6	0.8	1.4	1.7	1.2
6 GNP at market prices arising within the 'sector' (equals line 3, *plus* line 4, *minus* line 5)	0.7	1.9	2.6	3.7	4.0	5.5

[1] Defined as operating costs less employment incomes.

A few differences from last year's estimates are worth mentioning:

Production: Up to 1980 we have taken the centre of the range shown in the 1977 Brown Book. Our assumptions therefore are very similar to the figures used last year, except in 1985 for which we now adopt a more cautious estimate: about 125 million tonnes as against about 150 million tonnes assumed last year.

Imports displaced: The estimates of employment in North Sea oil production have been raised. Given our assumptions that unemployment is unchanged by oil production, this means that our estimate of the imports it displaces has also been revised upwards.

Invisibles and capital account: The figures for interest, profits and dividends and capital flows have changed because of revisions to the method of estimating depreciation and to the treatment of companies in joint UK and foreign ownership.

If a margin of error were to be sketched out on either side of these estimates it would have to be quite a wide one, especially for the projections of 1985. The assumption about oil prices, that they will remain constant in real terms, is particularly significant if one looks ahead as far as the mid-eighties. A higher oil price in real terms would, despite some offsets, increase the net benefit which the UK receives from its oil production. In other words it would mean that our situation without oil would be worse, although it need not necessarily mean that our situation with oil is better.

Table 1 has shown the potential benefit to the balance of payments. This is one way of answering the question with which this article started: how much difference will the oil make to the UK economy? It is quite a good way of answering it because the weakness of the balance of payments has been one of the major problems facing the economy since the war. There is moreover a large quantity of official overseas debt to repay (see *Economic Progress Report*, May 1977). Another, also quite useful, way of answering the same general question would be to look at the income which will be generated by oil production.

Real incomes

Some of the incomes will be the profits of UK companies and the trading surpluses of nationalised industries (namely the British Gas Corporation and the British National Oil Corporation), some will be the tax and royalty paid to the government, a little will be income from employment. In the next section of this article forecasts are given of the incomes arising in the whole off-shore 'sector' – that is for oil and gas production together. It is not easy to make a very satisfactory estimate for either fuel on its own, but the figures for gnp arising from oil production (at 1976 prices) would be roughly as follows: this year £1 billion to £1½ billion (about 1 per cent) rising to about £3 billion to £4 billion in 1980 and reaching about £5 billion by 1985.

This calculation takes us only half way to an answer. The other half requires an assumption about the income which the employees and companies would have earned if there had been no domestic oil production. This is another of the questions to which there is no uniquely correct answer. It would be rather strange to assume that they would have earned nothing at all, but also a little artificial to assume they would have earned exactly the same incomes even if there were no oil. The total UK income generated by the oil programme is therefore an over-statement of the benefit to the economy, but the extent of that overstatement is a matter of judgement and depends on the conventions of measurement one wishes to assume.

This section has been concerned with measuring the extent to which the opportunities facing the UK have been changed by the discovery and development of oil. But the existence of these potential gains on paper guarantees nothing. The difference which oil makes is not just a matter of the scale of production or income. It depends crucially how successfully we relate the use of these resources to the underlying problems faced by the economy.

Forecasts of offshore income and expenditure

In this section we present forecasts of the income arising in the offshore production of oil and gas up to the mid-eighties, and some projections of future capital expenditures. For the reasons made clear above, these forecasts on their own do not provide estimates of the benefits of oil and gas to the UK economy. They are nevertheless necessary components in any analysis of the medium-term economic prospects for this country.

For the purpose of this article we need to define an offshore 'sector'. The definition we adopt is the one used for tax purposes: we include all expenditure which is within the 'ring fence' recognised by the Inland Revenue in computing corporation tax liability on oil and gas profits. Broadly speaking this means that it covers activities associated with the extraction, landing and initial treatment and storage of the oil and gas, and not with its subsequent refining, distribution or use.

The figures shown here all refer to oil and gas combined. Neither costs nor taxes can be divided between the two in any wholly satisfactory way. Part 1 referred to oil only, and for that purpose a rough allocation has been made, but except for the special purposes of those estimates it is probably better to think in terms of aggregates for the 'sector' as a whole.

The levels of production assumed for both oil and gas are consistent with the Brown Book. All figures are expressed in terms of 1976 purchasing power. The real price of oil and the real sterling exchange rate are assumed constant and consistent assumptions have been made about the contract price for gas. As with any medium-term forecast a substantial error margin exists in both directions and the forecasts are conditional on the particular assumptions which have been made.

Income

Table 2 (opposite) shows forecasts of the total income arising from the production of oil and gas offshore. The prices at which the production is valued and hence the figures for profits reflect the way the 'sector' has been defined. These prices cannot purport to measure the economic value of the production to the UK as a whole. In the case of gas in particular, where estimated contract prices are used, the economic value is certainly understated.

The fifth line of the table is consistent with the definitions used in the current account of the balance of payments. It does not necessarily mean that this money will actually be taken out of the 'sector' since some may be retained to finance capital expenditure. It represents the return on foreign capital invested in the North Sea and is therefore a necessary deduction from total income when calculating the final line which refers to income due in the UK.

Public sector

The final line of table 2 includes the income of UK-owned companies and public corporations, the government's revenue from taxes and royalties and the provision made by foreign companies for tax and depreciation. Government receipts are not shown year by year, because we do not have experience of the operation of the system of taxation applied to oil production on which to base forecasts of the timing of tax receipts. However, the aggregate revenue from royalties, petroleum revenue tax and corporation tax which might be collected over the five years 1976 to 1980 inclusive is estimated to be about £5 billion at 1976 prices. Annual receipts are expected to rise to about £3½ billion a year at 1976 prices by the mid-eighties. This illustrates the small government share of the revenue from oil in the early years of oil production when companies will still be setting off their development costs against their profits. These new estimates of revenue are rather lower those quoted in the Brown Book because of changes in the economic assumptions underlying the calculations. They remain, of course, very tentative and subject to further revision.

The public sector is also directly involved in the exploration of offshore resources through the British Gas Corporation and the British National Oil Corporation (BNOC). The trading surpluses of these corporations which arise from oil and gas production are included in the final line of table 2. The public sector borrowing requirement will be reduced by these trading surpluses as well as receipts of tax and royalties. On the other hand it will be increased by the finance required for future capital expenditure.

Capital expenditure

Capital spending has built up in the first half of the seventies to a rate of about £2 billion a year. This includes both the costs of successful exploration and the capital equipment needed for production. Capital spending in gas production reached a peak in 1975 and may not be running at so high a rate for the rest of the decade. Oil investment will remain

very high for some years, but by the mid-eighties it too will probably be reduced in scale. This view is consistent with the production profile assumed in this article. Table 3 (below) shows the forecast path for capital expenditure, showing how it may be divided between UK-owned and foreign companies.

These assumptions about capital expenditure underly the balance of payments capital account figures presented in section one. It has also been assumed (for the calculations in the first part) that UK-owned companies will continue to finance their investment mainly in sterling whilst non-UK companies will largely use overseas sources of finance (including retained earnings). These assumptions about financing are necessarily stylised and no attempt has been made to identify individual borrowings: the figures for 1977, for example, do not include special allowance for the foreign currency finance arranged by BNOC last spring.

Other uses of income

A comparison of gnp arising in the offshore 'sector' with capital expenditure by UK-owned companies and public corporations shows a rapidly growing excess of income. It is misleading to think of this as measuring the 'disposable income' generated by the North Sea for two reasons: some of it is required for the repayment of borrowing from overseas and it does not include foreign currency sources of finance. It may for some purposes therefore be more meaningful to consider the excess of receipts over payments for the 'sector' as a whole.

In forecasting the development of the economy over the medium term it is important to consider how this surplus may be used. To some extent this in the hands of the government, but one must also consider the likely behaviour of private and overseas companies. For example some of the profits which are shown in this article as being due abroad may in fact be retained in the UK to finance capital spending onshore. That would be in addition to capital spending offshore which is shown in table 3 and would result in an inflow in the capital account of the balance of payments additional to those scored in table 1. Similarly UK-owned companies may be able to use some of their profits to finance capital expenditure overseas. If so the result would be an outflow in the capital account of the balance of payments.

Strictly the surplus of receipts over payments ceases to be within the subject matter of this article once it crosses the boundary of the 'sector' that has been defined. It is important to remember however that the economic impact of the North Sea does not stop there. Its influence will be pervasive and will contribute to the setting within which developments in the rest of the economy have to be assessed.

Table 3 Capital expenditure in oil and gas production £ billion at 1976 prices

	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1985
Capital expenditure	2.2	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.5	0.4
assumed to be UK-owned	0.9	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.2
assumed to be non-UK-owned	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.0	0.2

New publications

Labelling dangerous goods

Safe carriage, storage and use of chemicals are problems that have attracted the attention of national and international bodies alike, producing a prolific number of regulations. The Chemical Industries Association has therefore produced a timely guide to existing codes of practice and legislation. This both replaces and extends in scope the CIA's previous publication, *Marking Containers of Hazardous Chemicals*, the last edition of which was published in 1970.

The new guide includes details of international regulations concerning carriage by road, rail, sea and air (ADR, RID, IMCO and IATA), UK regulations, as well as EEC directives and voluntary codes of practice. Some suggestions are also made for precautionary labelling practices, which may be adopted in the future. Other sections help to clarify the relationship between the different labelling requirements and provide a list of useful addresses. The appendix gives illustrated examples of labels conforming with the various regulations.

Labelling Chemicals: a guide to the regulations for the labelling and marking of containers and vehicles. (134 pages. Chemical Industries Association, 93 Albert Embankment, London SE1 7TU. 1977. £15: £10 to CIA members.)

Spain and the recession

Although still expanding rapidly in 1974, the Spanish economy has been seriously hit by the recession which has affected all OECD countries, according to a new survey by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.

This review of the Spanish economy over the past year, together with an outline of its short-term prospects has been compiled by OECD's economic and development review committee. The study is one in the series of country surveys carried out every year on each of the member and associate states.

Published in the economic surveys series, these country analyses provide details of developments in demand, production, employment, prices and wages, and review the situation in the money and capital markets and the balance of payments. Statistics are supplied by the individual governments and thus vary in scope and detail, but each volume contains a statistical annexe of all the relevant material, as well as a useful international comparison table of basic statistics of all member countries. The surveys are available individually or as a series on subscription.

Spain. Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development: Economic Survey series. (52 pages. Available from HMSO. 1977. £1.10. ISBN 92 64 11661 3. Annual subscription for series £20.)

Impact of Opec studied

Between 1973 and the first half of 1976, the Opec area has raised its share of world imports from 3.5 per cent to 6.2 per cent. This study examines the impact of the emergence of the Opec market on world trade and provides a working guide to one of the world's fastest-growing trading areas.

Roy Mason and Nigel Bance have taken the commodity trade statistics for 10 leading exporters to Opec countries for the years 1973 to 1975 and have converted the data to conform with the chapter headings of the Brussels tariff nomenclature, producing a series of tables showing value and quantity of exports to each Opec member country. Detailed commodity tables are also provided.

The resulting analysis, covering the period up to mid-1976, demonstrates how trade has been distributed among supplier countries and between the various commodities. A chapter is included on the way inflation has affected the relationship between the changes in the value and quantity of Opec imports.

For the exporter, this should prove a most interesting study of the opportunities now available in an expanding market.

Opec Trade 1973-1976, by Roy Mason and Nigel Bance. (184 pages. Euromoney, 20 Tudor Street, London EC4Y 0JS, and Parra, Ramos and Parra Ltd, Guildgate House, The Terrace, Wokingham. 1977. £55.55.)

Weights and measures

Weights and measures law concerns all who buy or sell goods, as well as enforcement officers and lawyers advising on the subject. The law has been continually amended in the 11 years since the publication of the first edition of this work. An important feature of this new edition is its loose-leaf format, which allows regular updating.

It takes the form of annotated texts of relevant statutes, statutory instruments, EEC legislation, and other documents. An historical outline and weights and measures data are both included in the appendices. There are also tables of cases and statutes and a substantial index.

Like the first edition, the work is designed to be used not only as a comprehensive legal textbook, but also as a source of practical information for traders and administrators.

The Law of Weights and Measures, 2nd edition by John A. O'Keefe. (Looseleaf. Butterworth Law Publishers Ltd. 1977. £55.00. ISBN 0 406 32646 0.)

New products

Freepost reader service

For further information on items in these sections, circle the corresponding number on the reader services page near the end of the magazine.

Mobile X-ray inspection

Callbuoy Marine Electronics Ltd, of Cwmbran, Gwent, has developed and launched a mobile X-ray inspection system which it claims is more versatile, faster, and lower in price than any currently available systems.

By using a low level flash X-ray source of only 60 nanoseconds, coupled with an image store, the company has overcome the problems of close scrutiny of baggage without fogging undeveloped films which may be in the baggage.

The picture is displayed on a TV monitor, and is of high enough definition to be able to resolve a twisted pair of fine copper wires.

Another advantage of this approach is that it is not necessary to place baggage within an enclosure (as with most higher dosage systems). This enables any size of baggage, including the largest cabin trunks, to be examined by taking overlapping multiple exposures. The system will inspect baggage up to about 80 cm by 60 cm in a single exposure, a far larger area than most competitive systems.

The complete system consists of a monitor console mounted on one side of the luggage conveyor. This unit carries the control, TV monitor with store, X-ray generator, and cable stowage.

Linked to this by stainless steel armoured cables is the second console which is positioned at the other side of the conveyor. This console carries a high sensitivity fluoroscopic screen, and TV camera.

Both consoles are mounted on castors, requiring only two personnel to move them quickly into position and a special zoom facility enables the security guard to look in detail at a small portion of the image.

Further information: circle 632

Sprayed concrete accelerator

Cormix sprayed concrete accelerator is a new product from Joseph Crosfield and Sons Ltd, of Warrington. An integral admixture in powder form, it has been developed for introduction into dry mixed materials used in sprayed concrete to encourage the early setting of the mix.

The product is chloride free, and can be used on moist surfaces. Slight infiltrations of ground water can be temporarily diverted and piped off, to allow further applications of sprayed material and in multi-coat applications, subsequent coats can be applied sooner, and overhead work can be carried out with less wastage and rebound. As it is caustic however, full protective clothing is essential.

Further information: circle 633

Keeping rain out of flat roofs

One of Kenya's best known hotels, the Hilton in Nairobi, has now applied a special treatment to the non-sloping roof to prevent external water penetration, provided by a British manufacturer of membrane coatings, Liquid Plastics Ltd of Preston.

The hotel's problems began following removal of the aluminium capped sheeting originally installed on the roof of the building. The aluminium had failed to provide sufficient protection against Kenya's heavy seasonal rainfall.

A primer and two coats of Decadex was subsequently applied to the bitumenised felt revealed by the stripped aluminium, and the result is a completely weatherproofed roof.

On curing, Decadex expands and contracts with both thermal and structural movement, thus allowing for substrate expansion, contraction or settlement. Its thick, seamless elastic skin offers outstanding weathering characteristics and a life expectancy many times that of conventional coatings. In addition, it has self-cleaning properties, maintaining its original decorative appearance.

A problem associated with water penetration is that of moisture trapped within the substrate after the surface coating has been applied. Unless the damp can escape, the surface is in danger of blistering and cracking with a subsequent total physical breakdown. Decadex, it is claimed, allows the substrate to 'breathe' naturally, allowing moisture to permeate one-way and eventually dry-out the substrate completely. The product also has a high resistance to both alkali and acid attack and withstands many years of heavy atmospheric pollution and climatic extremes.

Further information: circle 634

Faster fire fighting

Reynolds Boughton Chassis Ltd of Winkleigh, Devon has introduced an improved version of the Pegasus rapid intervention airport fire fighting vehicle.

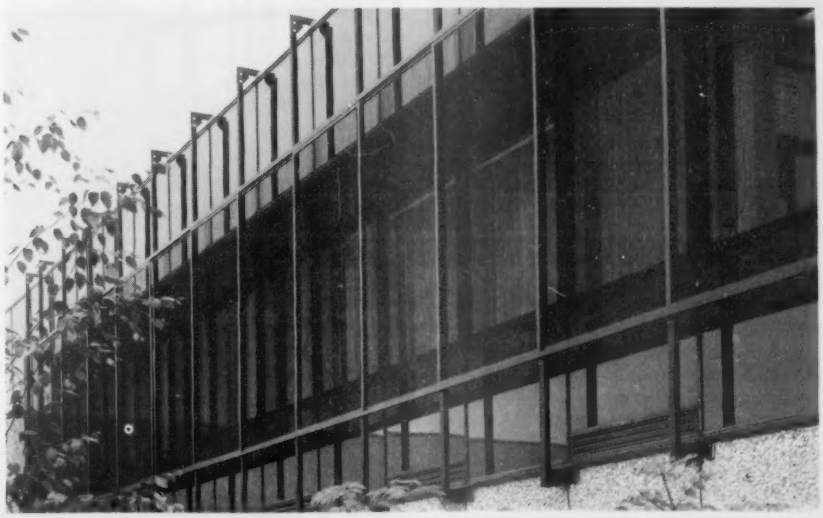
The 8 ton grossweight Pegasus RIV chassis, now powered by a Rolls Royce B815V petrol engine will accelerate from 0-50 mph within 25 seconds. Payload characteristics are unaltered.

Further information: circle 635

Solar control louvre screens

Colt KoolShade solar control screens from Colt International in Havant, have been designed specifically to eliminate solar heat penetration through windows. Fitted externally to any type of window, they reduce the internal heat gain to less than 10 per cent and they eliminate direct radiation and glare, while still maintaining good outward visibility with little reduction in natural day-lighting. The screen consists of tiny, fixed horizontal louvres, manufactured from a special bronze alloy, coated with an organic finish, providing superior resistance to corrosion. The louvre screens are mounted under tension in special anodised aluminium frames.

Further information: circle 636



Technology news

Reliability and safety of offshore equipment

Extensive facilities for contract research and development, testing, feasibility and design studies, and specialised consultancy services for the offshore industry are provided by the Department of Industry's National Engineering Laboratory at East Kilbride, Glasgow. In order to function effectively in the offshore field the laboratory usually operates in partnership with commercial customers, trade organisations or government departments, through various consultancy, joint development and/or licensing arrangements. Unparalleled facilities are avaliable for evaluating and testing a comprehensive range of ropes and lifting tackle under various load conditions.

Strength of ropes

The laboratory's rope programme has established the importance of evaluating fibre ropes under simulated service conditions. An important parameter is behaviour under repeated loading. Such forces include those experienced during mooring and towing especially under the influence of wave action. The very high cost of the more efficient ropes has brought renewed interest in rope life among major tanker operators.

So far, plaited polypropylene ropes have been investigated by cycling to various percentages of their static strength. At half this strength samples have failed at around 30 000 cycles. Failures at less than 100 cycles have been recorded at 70 per cent of static load. The work is to be extended to cover other materials and constructions using the range of specialised test facilities, including an automatic cycling facility and a high loading rate apparatus.

Recent and envisaged growth in the scale of offshore and other operations has brought with it a need for improved test facilities. Ropes, slings and chains in current European production are beyond the test capacity of United Kingdom equipment and the transfer of operations to zones beyond the continental shelf will aggravate the situation. A technical case for a 10 maganewtons (1000 tonf) tensile test machine for fibre ropes has been established but further progress is being inhibited by the reluctance of major users to enter into realistic funding discussions. Similar cases for wire rope and chain testing have been made and funding discussions are current. The investigation of failed-in-service ropes continues and occupies a significant part of the time available.

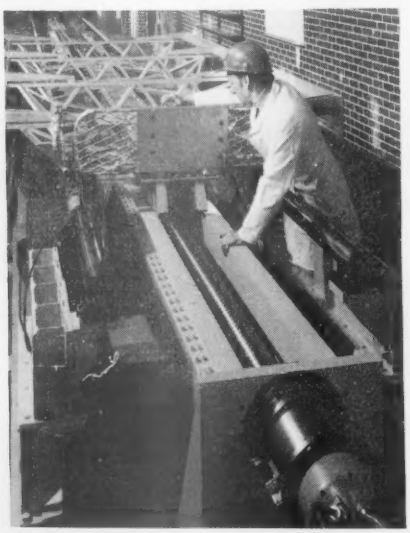
Evaluation of lifting tackle

There is a constant demand, currently reinforced by the publication of the draft Lifting Tackle (Testing and Use) Regulations under the Health and Safety at Work Act of 1974, for realistic evaluation of the reliability of lifting equipment. The NEL project has the object of providing facilities for development and quality control work on the design and performance of this type of equipment, both in the conventional steel-based forms and in the new fibre-based components, especially in the areas of bulk carriage by means of cloverleaf slings and intermediate bulk containers.

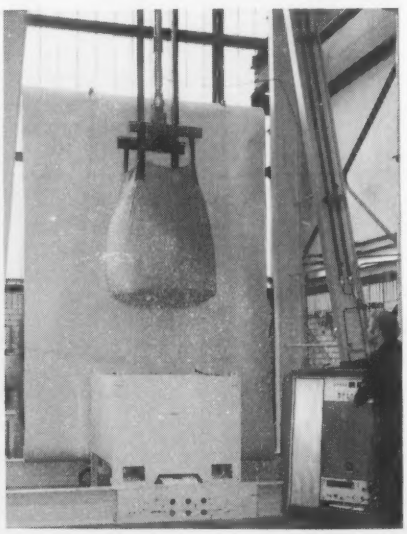
In the offshore context this project covers work on simple and complex lifting slings and associated hardware for supply-vessel to rig transfer. The laboratory's apparatus for evaluating this range of gear is in constant use. The amount of work in the field confirms the lively interest of makers and users.

Inquiries: The Director, National Engineering Laboratory, East Kilbride. Glasgow G75 0QU, tel. East Kilbride 20222

NEL's dynamic test appratus used in the evaluation of ropes.



Semi-bulk container under test on an A-frame.



Geothermal energy research

The possibility of using the vast quantities of heat in the earth's crust for domestic, commercial and industrial heating purposes has been receiving growing attention as the prices of conventional fuels increase. A major obstacle to using this geothermal reservoir on a large scale is that, while in some parts of the world geothermal heat manifests itself as steam or hot springs which can be used for heating or electricity generation, over most of the earth's surface useful temperatures exist only at depths of several kilometres thus making extraction of the heat difficult.

Schemes for extracting heat from hot rock at depth generally involve pumping a cool fluid through a volume of rock fractured by artificial means into a large number of fissures. This fracturing exposes a large area of rock fissure surface to the fluid and so improves the efficiency of transfer of heat from the rock. The heated fluid can then be pumped to the surface to a heat exchanger and recirculated.

The Science Research Council has awarded Dr A. S. Batchelor of Camborne School of Mines £34,425 (over three years from 1 October) for research on a novel method of rock fracturing which may lead to a practical system of heat extraction. The work will be carried out in Cornwall, a region having higher rock temperatures than most other areas of the United Kingdom.

Work has been carried out at Los Alamos, USA, on extracting heat from rock which had been fractured by the application of high hydraulic pressures, a technique commonly used to enhance production from oil wells near depletion. This work has had limited success as single cracks in a vertical plane tended to be formed. The technique proposed by Dr Batchelor could offer a significant improvement in the fracturing as preliminary work at Camborne has suggested that the detonation of an explosive charge at the base of a drilled hole may form a number of 'starter' cracks in vertical planes which could then be extended by subsequent application of hydraulic pressure. Dr Batchelor will test this hypothesis by explosively forming cracks at the base of a hole drilled 300 m into the Cornish granite and detecting the progress of these cracks as they are extended by hydraulic pressure through a pattern of holes drilled around the first hole.

European community news

Draft directive on price marking published

Commission proposals for the marking and display of food prices have been published (*Official Journal* C167, 14 July 1977).

The aim of the draft directive is to ensure that the unit price, ie the price of a standard quantity of foodstuffs is properly displayed to make it easier for the consumer to make quick price/quantity comparisons.

The draft directive covers all retail sales of foodstuffs in three categories:

1 Foodstuffs which are not pre-packed, for example fresh fruit and vegetables, must have an indication of their unit price.

2 Foodstuffs pre-packed in variable quantities, for example cheese, meat, must have an indication of their selling price and unit price.

3 Foodstuffs pre-packed in pre-determined quantities, for example milk, jam, tins of baked beans, must have an indication of their selling price and unit price unless they are packed in quantities prescribed by EEC or national legislation in which case only the selling price need be indicated.

Foodstuffs sold in hotels, restaurants, cafes, public houses or similar establishments where consumption takes place on the premises are exempt. For instance, a station buffet would not be obliged to show the price per pound of the ham sandwiches it sells.

Member states may also exempt foodstuffs normally sold by count, for example eggs and oranges from the requirement to unit price.

The rules on price marking would also apply to advertising, special offers and catalogues mentioning prices of foodstuffs. The period of validity for every special offer would have to be indicated.

The units to be used for pricing are litre, kilogram or in instances where items are normally sold in small quantities, 100 g or 10 centilitres. For so long as imperial units may legally be used, the UK government would be able to require the unit price to be expressed in terms of either imperial or metric units or both.

Commission proposes doubling community transport quota

A proposal aimed at doubling the number of permits issued under the community quota system for carriage of goods by road between member states has been sent to the council by the commission.

The commission proposes that each member state would receive a 50 per cent increase in the number of permits it has for the current year and the other 50 per cent would be in relation to the degree of utilisation of permits during 1975 – the last year for which full statistics are available.

New model forms have also been drawn up by the commission with the aims of simplifying the formalities that the transport companies have to comply with and speeding up the flow of information on the use of community permits.

The community quota system was introduced on an experimental basis in 1968. In December last year it was made permanent under regulation 3164/76 which makes provision for the possible increase of the community quota, the allocation of which among member states is fixed by the council.

EEC seminar for Tyne and Wear

Tyne and Wear County Council is to stage a one-day seminar on the EEC organised by the British sections of the International Union of Local Authorities and the Council of European Municipalities in conjunction with the European commission.

Delegates from local authorities, industry, commerce, education, trade unions, shipbuilding, agriculture and fishing as well as other organisations associated with the development of the north-east region will attend the seminar to be held at the Royal Station Hotel, Newcastle, on Friday, 21 October 1977.

The seminar, the first to be held in England, is intended to develop into an exchange of views rather than a planned series of formal lectures. It will provide delegates with the opportunity of pinpointing matters of individual concern and, in turn, giving the commission a further insight into the problems facing the Tyne and Wear area. Some 200 delegates are expected to attend.

Council agrees new data processing projects

A series of joint data-processing projects has been agreed by the EEC council of ministers in the following fields:

1 A series of studies aimed at developing portable software, ie software which can be treated by different machines in order to make the use of computers more independent of their make and to reduce conversion costs.

2 A series of studies concerning methods of using and protecting data; these studies aim to ensure the confidentiality and security of data with the particular concern of protecting the individual from the computer, the efficient use of computers by improving programming techniques and better use and management of data-base systems.

3 A four-year experimental project to develop high-speed data communication techniques in Europe; this project will consist of a series of data communication experiments carried out between the European Research Centre (Cern) and various European laboratories and will make use of the satellite designed by the European Space Agency (ESA).

4 A study of data-processing systems for information on imports/exports for the purpose of determining the long-term conditions, (in the administration of the customs union and in the common agricultural policy) for the transmission and rapid processing of data on imports and exports, on the agricultural market and on its financial management.

5 A series of exploratory studies to determine subsequent projects of community interest.

The projects which were agreed at the foreign affairs council on 25 and 26 July follow the first series adopted on 22 July last year.

More community news

Information on European community matters and about member states can often be found in other sections of *Trade and Industry*. For this week's additional news, turn to the following pages:

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New legislation

The legislation listed below has been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* as indicated against each item. The *Official Journal* is published in English and copies should be obtained from HMSO. Information about the items listed, in so far as other member states' requirements are concerned, is available to British exporters from Department of Trade, Export Services and Promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU, tel. 01-248 5757, ext. 7174/482/408.

Common agricultural policy

The texts of the following regulations which affect the various agricultural sectors in the EEC have been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*:

Fruit and vegetables. Regulation (EEC) 1704/77 laying down further protective measures applicable to the import of peaches originating in Greece (*Official Journal* L188, 28 July 1977).

Cereals and rice. Regulation (EEC) 1770/77 amending regulation (EEC) 2102/75 determining the quantity of potatoes required for the manufacture of 1 tonne of starch (*Official Journal* L192, 30 July 1977).

Corrigendum. The *Official Journal* L196, 3 August 1977, contains the following correction to regulation (EEC) 1154/77 (published in *Official Journal* L136, 2 June 1977) fixing, for the 1977/78 marketing year, the monthly price increases for cereals, wheat and rye flour and wheat groats and meal:

Page 8, Article 2:
for: '. . . durum wheat, operative . . .', *read:* '. . . durum wheat and to the reference price for common wheat of bread-making quality, operative . . .'.

Fish and fish products. Regulation (EEC) 1779/77 laying down interim measures for herring fishing in the Irish Sea (*Official Journal* L196, 3 August 1977).

Wine. The *Official Journal* L198, 5 August 1977, contains the texts of the following regulations:

Regulation (EEC) 1801/77 laying down, for the wine-growing year 1977/78, detailed rules governing the distillation of wines produced from table grapes.

Regulation (EEC) 1802/77 amending for the second time regulation (EEC) 1608/76 laying down detailed rules for the description and presentation of wines and grape musts.

Regulation (EEC) 1803/77 amending for the third time regulation (EEC) 2115/76 laying down detailed rules for the import of wines, grape juice and grape must.

Regulation (EEC) 1804/77 laying down, in respect of the wine-growing year 1977/78, detailed rules for the distillation of the by-products of wine-making.

Imports from non-member states

The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L198, 5 August 1977, contains the texts of the following decisions:

Decision 77/478/EEC authorising Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands not to apply community treatment to imports of bed linen, table linen, toilet linen and kitchen linen falling within heading ex 62.02 of the common customs tariff, originating in India and in free circulation in the other member states.

Decision 77/479/EEC authorising Italy not to apply community treatment to sewing machines, sewing machine heads and parts of sewing machines falling within subheading 84.41 A ex I, ex II or ex III of the common customs tariff, originating in Japan and in free circulation in the other member states.

Decision 77/480/EEC authorising France not to apply community treatment to shirts other than of silk, noil or other waste silk, flax or ramie falling within heading ex 61.03 of the common customs tariff, originating in Hong Kong and in free circulation in the other member states.

Decision 77/481/EEC authorising Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands not to apply community treatment to drawn or blown glass falling within heading ex 70.05 of the common customs tariff, originating in the USSR and in free circulation in the other member states.

Decision 77/482/EEC authorising France not to apply community treatment to blouses falling within heading ex 61.02 of the common customs tariff, originating in Korea and in free circulation in the other member states.

Temporary suspension of import duties

The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L188, 28 July 1977, contains the text of regulation (EEC) 1694/77 extending for the sixth time the system of temporary partial suspension of the common customs tariff duties on wine, originating in and coming from Turkey, provided for in regulation (EEC) 2823/71.

Anti-dumping/anti-subsidy investigation

Haematite pig iron originating in Brazil. The *Official Journal* C187, 5 August 1977, contains a notice of initiation of an anti-dumping/anti-subsidy procedure following the receipt of information indicating that dumping is being practised or that bounties or subsidies are being granted in respect of imports of haematite pig iron (common customs tariff subheading 73.01 BIb) and 73.01 BII, Nimexe Codes 73.01-23 and 73.01-25) originating in Brazil, and that this is causing injury to a community industry. In co-operation with the member states, the commission has accordingly commenced examination of the matter at community level in accordance with commission recommendation 77/329/ECSC on protection against dumping or the granting of bounties or subsidies by countries which are not members of the European Coal and Steel Community.

Any information relating to the matter may be sent in writing to the Commission of the European Communities, Directorate-General for External Relations, 200 rue de la Loi, 1049 Brussels, Belgium (telex: Comeurbru 21.877) but trade inquiries expressing a UK interest should be directed to the Department of Trade, General Division, Kingsgate House, 66/74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SJ, tel. 01-215 3876.

Interested parties may, within 30 days from 5 August make known their views in writing, in particular by replying to the questionnaire addressed to the parties known to be concerned and by providing supporting evidence.

Malta: new tariff quota for certain preserved bovine meat or offal

To avoid disruption in traditional trading patterns between Malta and the European community pending extension of the EEC-Malta association agreement by an additional protocol, the council of ministers has agreed that a tariff quota for preserved bovine meat or offal of heading 16.02 B IIIb)1 bb) should be opened from 1 July 1977.

Until the date of entry into force of the additional protocol or until 31 December 1977, whichever is the sooner, the common customs tariff duties in respect of these products from Malta will be totally suspended within the limits of a community tariff quota of 375 tonnes. The UK's initial share is 338 tonnes. For this quantity Malta has a derogation from the rules of origin in respect of tinned stewed steak. In the case of these goods the movement certificate (form EUR 1) must carry in section 7 the entry 'Derogation stewed steak'.

The conditions and details of these arrangements are set out in articles 3 to 11 of council regulation (EEC) 1693/77 (see *Official Journal* L188, 28 July 1977).

HM Customs will be prepared to consider claims in respect of products covered by this tariff quota entered for home use on and after 1 July 1977. Claims covering goods already entered for home use should be submitted by 19 September 1977 direct to the Central Tariff Quota Unit (ICJ3), HM Customs and Excise, King's Beam House, Mark Lane, London EC3R 7HE, and should state:

1 Port of importation
2 Name of ship and date of report
} or name and address of bonded warehouse
3 Entry or home-use warrant number and date
4 Entered weight (in kilograms)

Claims will be finally admissable only when they are supported by a satisfactory movement certificate. It would seem likely that there may be some initial delay in obtaining current and retrospective certificates from Malta for all imports entered on and after 1 July.

Claims in respect of goods already imported should be made immediately, whether or not a certificate is currently available. When the certificate is not available it should be submitted to the Central Quota Unit as soon as received. Current claims will be processed in the usual way. If the movement certificate is not to hand a request to pay duty on deposit pending its production should be made on the entry.

The tariff quota serial number in Part 11 of HM Customs and Excise Tariff is 7092. Qualifying imports will be debited against the UK share of the tariff quota in the order in which any importer entered or enters them for home use on or after 1 July claiming relief from duty on the entry or as directed above.

Inquiries about claims should be made to the Central Tariff Quota Unit at the address given above, tel. 01-626 1515, ext. 2570.

Tariff quotas for certain commodities from Spain

As from 1 July 1977 the UK is participating in a number of tariff quotas which were opened by the EEC for the calendar year 1977 for certain goods originating in Spain. (Regulations (EEC) 1706/77, 1707/77 and 1705/77 published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* L189, 29 July 1977 refer.) The items concerned are given below and details will appear in part 11 B of HM Customs and Excise tariff in due course.

Qualifying imports will be debited against the UK shares in the order in which any importer entered or enters them for home use or free-circulation on or after 1 July.

A notice in *Trade and Industry*, 8 July, page 24, said that HM Customs and Excise would be taking deposit of duty at the appropriate non-quota rate from 1 July on these goods. HM Customs will deal as soon as possible with all adjustments of duty on entries and provisional claims already made under the tariff quota arrangements. Current valid claims will continue to be processed under the critical procedure, requiring payment of duty on deposit at the appropriate non-quota rate. All such deposits will be adjusted as soon as quota availability has been established.

Inquiries

Inquiries about this notice may be made to General Division 2, Department of Trade, Room 333, Kingsgate House, 66/74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SJ.

Inquiries about how much of a quota has been used or concerning claims should be made to HM Customs and Excise, Central Tariff Quota Registration Unit, King's Beam House, Mark Lane, London EC3R 7HE, tel. 01-626 1515, ext. 2570. HM Customs Notice No. 771 concerning the administration of tariff quotas may be obtained from any office of HM Customs and Excise.

Item	CCT heading	Tariff quota rate of duty	Initial[1] UK share (from 1 July 1977)
Dried figs in immediate packings of a net capacity not exceeding 15 kg	ex 08.03 B	2.4% + £0.1181 per 100 kg	20 tonnes
Dried grapes	08.04 BIa)	£0.0393 per 100 kg	65 tonnes
	BIb)	£0.0787 per 100 kg	
		ua[2] per hectolitre	
Sherry[3 4]	ex 22.05 CIIIa)1	5.4	In containers holding 2 litres or less: 23,000 hectolitres
	ex CIVa)1	5.8	
	ex 22.05 CIIIb)1	5.5	In containers holding more than 2 litres: 209 200 hectolitres
	CIVb)1	6.0	
Malaga wine[3 4]	ex 22.05 CIIIa)2	8.5	600 hectolitres
	ex 22.05 CIVa)2	9.5	
Wines from Jumilla, Priorato, Rioja and Valdepenas[3 4]	ex 22.05 CIa)	8.4	1 820 hectolitres
	ex 22.05 CIIa)	9.8	
	ex 22.05 CIIIa)2	11.9	
Certain petroleum products refined in Spain[4]	27.10 AIII	2.4%	65 000
	BIII	2.4%	
	CIc)	1.4%	
	CIIc)	1.4%	
	CIIIc)[5]	1.6%	
	CIIId)	2.4%	
	27.11 BIc)	0.6%	
	27.12 AIII	0.8%	
	B	2.8%	
	27.13 BIc)	0.8%	
	BII	2.4%	
	27.14 CII	0.8%	
Other woven fabrics of cotton	55.09 AI	5.2%	25 tonnes
	AII and BI	5.6%	
	BII	6.0%	

Notes: [1] There is a community reserve for each tariff quota on which member states may draw or to which they contribute depending on how quickly they use their original shares. [2] The conversion rate applicable to uas is the current agricultural 'representative rate' (obtainable from HM Custom's levy seats and local offices of HM Customs). [3] Claims for quota relief in respect of designated wines of heading ex 22.05 must satisfy certain origin requirements and the free-at-frontier offer prices for Malaga, Jumilla, Priorato, Rioja and Valdepenas must not at any time be less than the appropriate free-at-frontier reference price. [4] Any excise duty is also payable. [5] End-use control arrangements apply to goods of heading 27.10 CIIIc).

Tariff quotas 1977 – exhaustions

HM Customs have stated that the UK's share of the following EEC tariff quotas for imports from Turkey and Portugal have been exhausted:

UK tariff heading	Description of goods	HM Customs serial no. (part 11 of the UK tariff)
08.05 GI*	Hazelnuts	1111
ex GII		(Turkey)
ex 22.05 CIIIa)1	Port in containers of two litres or less	1251
ex IVa)1		(Portugal)
55.05	Cotton yarn	3481 (Turkey)

* The reactivation of this tariff quota was announced in *Trade and Industry* of 15 July, page 70. The exhaustion announced above refers to this reactivated quota.

The following UK tariff quota for imports of paper and board and printed products from individual Efta countries and Finland (see *Trade and Industry* of 17 December 1976) have also been exhausted:

UK tariff heading	Country of origin	HM Customs serial no. (part 11 of the tariff)
48.01 EIIb)	Sweden	2095
48.04	Sweden	2567
48.07 B	Sweden	2737
ex 48.07 BIc)1	Sweden	2621
ex 48.07 B	Austria	2664
ex Chapter 48	Switzerland	3007

Inquiries about current tariff quota balances may be made to HM Customs and Excise, Central Tariff Quota Registration Unit, King's Beam House, Mark Lane, London EC3R 7HE, tel. 01-626 1515, ext. 2570.

Generalised tariff preference scheme (GSP): restoration of normal duties

Trade and Industry of 25 February, 18 March, 22 April, 13 May, 24 June and 29 July, gave details of GSP tariff quotas exhausted and GSP ceilings reached up to 30 June. HM Customs have stated that the position on the restoration of normal duties for the month ending 31 July is as follows (the customs' quota reference* is given in brackets after the description of goods):

I Tariff quotas and special ceilings

Tariff heading/ description of goods	Date UK quota share ex-hausted	Community butoir or where applicable UK maximum cumulative amount (m.a.) reached: duty to be re-imposed
41.02 Bovine cattle leather (1545)	20.1.77	12.7.77 Brazil
58.05 Narrow woven fabrics (6453)	—	1.7.77 Hong Kong
62.03 BIa) ex b) and ex II (S/C) Sacks and bags of a kind needed for the packing of goods (6925)	—	5.7.77 Pakistan
70.13 (S/C) Glassware (4398)	—	12.7.77 Yugoslavia

* See HM Customs tariff, part 11.
S/C denotes Special Ceiling.

II Ceilings

Tariff heading/description of goods	Date of restoration of duties: From all sources	From particular sources (inner ceilings)
27.10 CIc), CIIc), CIIIc) and d) Heavy oils: Gas oils, fuel oils, lubricating oils	—	29.7.77 Venezuela
44.24 Household utensils of wood	5.7.77	12.6.77 Thailand
44.25 ex B Wooden tools, tool bodies, tool handles, broom and brush bodies and handles; boot and shoe lasts and trees of wood: Other	5.7.77	24.4.77 Brazil
59.11 Tableware and other articles of a kind commonly used for domestic or toilet purposes, etc	—	5.7.77 Yugoslavia
70.14 AII Illuminating glassware	—	24.7.77 Yugoslavia
74.07 Tubes and pipes and blanks therefor of copper, bars of copper	—	15.7.77 Yugoslavia
85.18 Electrical capacitors	—	18.6.77 South Korea
	—	15.7.77 Singapore

Inquiries about current availability of preferences may be made to HM Customs and Excise, Central Tariff Quota Registration Unit, King's Beam House, Mark Lane, London EC3R 7HE, tel. 01-626 1515, ext. 2570.

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor should be addressed to the Editor, *Trade and Industry*, Room 437, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, and *not* to HMSO.

Overseas trade news

Opportunities identified for UK-Venezuelan trade

There were good prospects for UK exporters in all the nine industrial and service sectors covered by the Anglo-Venezuelan economic and industrial co-operation agreement, Edmund Dell, Secretary of State for Trade, said in Caracas on 12 August.

Mr Dell, who initialled the agreement in London with Ted Rowlands, Minister of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, during the visit of President Perez last November, signed it with Venezuelan Foreign Minister Simon Alberto Consalvi at a ceremony in Caracas.

The agreement lists nine sectors in which the two governments agree that there are good possibilities for co-operation. They are: energy, transport, iron and steel, petrochemical, agricultural and fisheries, health and social services, environment, shipbuilding and education.

At a 90-minute meeting to review progress on the agreement since it was initialled, Mr Dell and Dr Luis Alvarez Dominguez, Venezuelan Minister of Development, identified many areas of co-operation, especially for British consultants.

In a speech to the Venezuelan-British Chamber of Commerce, Mr Dell said, 'It is particularly encouraging to see this democratic founder member of Opec using its resources to stimulate development socially and industrially.'

He said that he had heard great reports of the British industrial exhibition in Caracas in March. British industry had taken its chance to show Venezuela what it could offer, to help in the process of diversification. Many firms came to Venezuela for the first time and quite a few intend to stay in the market. 'We recognise', Mr Dell said, 'our responsibility to follow up and reinforce success. I am sure the exhibition will result in many more British firms taking an active part in the Venezuelan market.'

At a press conference, Mr Dell said that there were many opportunities in Venezuela for UK goods and services, and the UK had to maintain the tempo developed in Anglo-Venezuelan relationships.

'We intend to have a further meeting in London to review progress on this agreement, which should benefit both our countries, early next year', Mr Dell said.

UK exports to Venezuela were up 40 per cent in 1976, to nearly £130 million.

During his visit to Venezuela Mr Dell met and held meetings with President Carlos Andres Perez, several ministers, including finance and foreign affairs, the heads of a number of Venezuelan public sector agencies and the leaders of Venezuela's CBI.

Overseas publicity for UK trade fairs

British commercial representatives overseas are keen to publicise UK trade fairs and exhibitions and welcome posters and brochures from fair organisers. But material must be sent well in advance—at least three clear months ahead of the event—and in sufficient quantity—two or three dozen copies for the representative in each area. A full list of addresses of commercial representatives is published as a quarterly supplement to *Trade and Industry*.

Duke to play leading role in export conference

A leading role in the British Overseas Trade Board's East Anglia export campaign on 28 September will be taken by the Duke of Kent, vice-chairman of the board.

Around 200 management and shop floor delegates from local industry will meet at Churchill College, Cambridge for a conference on profitable exporting and the Duke of Kent will take part in the afternoon's proceedings when he returns from a visit to Rupert Neve, manufacturers of audio mixing equipment. In the evening the Duke will be joined by the Duchess of Kent at a reception for delegates and their wives or husbands in St John's College, Cambridge.

The conference will include audio-visual presentations on five companies: Howard Rotavator Co Ltd, Saxham near Bury St Edmunds; Pye Telecommunications Ltd, Cambridge; Ransomes and Rapier Ltd, manufacturers of construction equipment, Ipswich; Shetland Boats Ltd, Stanton, near Bury St Edmunds; and Spong and Co Ltd, who produce kitchenware, of Basildon.

At the end of each presentation, the audience will discuss the case study with the company's representatives. Afterwards there will be an open debate, in which BOTB members will take part, on exporting issues raised during the day. The case studies will be presented by writer and broadcaster Bob McKenzie.

On 27 September, Sir Frederick Catherwood, chairman of BOTB and other board members – Lord Limerick, Sir John Read and Jim Wilks – will between them visit the factories of successful exporting companies in the counties of Essex, Norfolk, Suffolk and Cambridgeshire.

UK exhibitors at four Paris shows top 150

Over 150 British firms, with the support of the British Overseas Trade Board, will take part in four specialised trade fairs which will be held between 8 to 13 September in Paris.

International leather week
From 8 to 12 September 81 companies will be taking part in two joint-venture groups in conjunction with the British Leather Federation and the Skin, Hide and Leather Traders Association.

Children's fashionwear exhibition
The BOTB – supported joint venture of 23 companies – against 16 last year – at this show held from 10 to 13 September is sponsored by the National Children's Wear Association.

European menswear exhibition
There will be 39 British companies – 12 more than last year – at this event, also held from 10 to 13 September, in a joint-venture group in conjunction with the Clothing Export Council.

Jewellery, silverware, clocks, watches, gifts
British firms have attended this international show since it was first held 63 years ago. This year, from 8 to 13 September, 14 firms will be exhibiting in conjunction with the British Jewellery and Giftware Federation Ltd.

Britain a major exhibitor at German food exhibition

Britain will be one of the largest exhibitors at Cologne international fine foods and provisions exhibition (Anuga) which takes place from 10 to 15 September.

The British Overseas Trade Board, in conjunction with the British Food Export Council, will be assisting 96 British firms to exhibit – 37 more than at the last Anuga. This substantial increase in the number of British firms taking part reflects the growing interest in convenience foods – especially frozen – in many European countries.

British foodstuffs manufacturers will display both well established products and new lines including dishes – such as goulash, curry and stew – where the meat ingredient has been replaced by texturised vegetable protein made from soya bean. Other exhibits will include a strain of duckling developed especially for the German market.

British firms in the technical sector of the grocery trade and the food industry will show industrial floor-cleaning machines, vacuum cleaners, commercial refrigerators, freezers, coffee makers and mobile shops.

Aid for Swaziland water supplies

British equipment and British aid will be helping supply water to rural areas in Swaziland. Judith Hart, Minister for Overseas Development, has agreed that up to £800,000 should be allocated from existing capital aid funds to help meet the cost of British vehicles, capital equipment for construction units, pumps, pipes, construction materials and drilling costs.

The Swaziland Water and Sewerage Board (WSB) has already provided water supply services in urban areas in Swaziland and in a small number of rural centres. It is now intended that more rural areas should have water supplies in order to improve public health and social amenities.

It is hoped that supplies of potable water will help to improve the status of women by relieving them from having to fetch and carry water over long distances.

In order to save money the water will be distributed from focal points in local communities such as schools and clinics. The water will be free of charge except when house connections are made.

London chamber to host reception . . .

The London Chamber of Commerce and Industry is holding a reception to coincide with the September visit of commercial officers from all west European posts for their annual meeting with the European Trade Committee. The reception will be held on 15 September.

Further details are available from Anita Russell, London Chamber of Commerce and Industry, 69 Cannon Street, London, EC4N 5AB, tel. 01-248 4444.

. . . and plans export study visit

An export study visit to West Germany and the Netherlands is being arranged jointly by the London Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Parkland Overseas – a member of the Omnibus consortium.

The visit, from 26 September to 30 September, will take in the export departments of Bank für Gemeinwirtschaft, Daimler-Benz, Bosch, Philips Industries and Heineken, who will, the chamber says, explain their methods and answer any questions.

Victor Selwyn of Parkland Overseas, says that anyone going on the tour should come back with at least one good idea.

Further information can be obtained from The London Chamber of Commerce and Industry, 69 Cannon Street, London EC4N 5AB, tel. 01-248 4444.

Hints to business men booklets

Revised editions of the booklets on Greece, Nigeria, and Switzerland/Liechtenstein have been published in the *Hints to business men* series. British business men who intend visiting these countries on export business can obtain copies of the booklets from Export Services and Promotions Division, Department of Trade, Room D 05, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU, tel. 01-248 5757, ext. 7146, or any regional office of the Department of Industry.

Advertisements are accepted for all booklets in the series which covers over 100 countries. Inquiries about advertising should be addressed to Cheiron Press Ltd, 8/10 Parkway, London NW1 7AD, tel. 01-267 1285.

MK Electric opens Singapore factory

At the start of an intensive export drive MK Electric of Edmonton, London, has opened its first factory outside the UK – in Singapore.

The factory which will serve the whole south-east Asian market was officially opened by Singapore's Minister of State for Labour, Sia Kah Hui on 10 August. It is assembling items from the MK range which are in particularly heavy demand in these markets – the 2959 service-mounting 13A service switch socket-outlet which is extensively used in Singapore's housing development, for example.

MK's group managing director, Mr L. Gordon-Hazzard, explained that Singapore was chosen for the firm's first overseas venture 'because it is central to the fast-developing markets of south-east Asia and has a long history of using British standards products and high electrical safety standards'.

In addition to the assembly plant, the Singapore premises include warehouse facilities which will be used to hold stocks of the complete MK range. General manager of the operating company for the new factory, MK Electric (Singapore) Pte Ltd, is David Lowe, previously assistant to MK's chief planning engineer.

MK plans to open another overseas factory, this time to serve Middle East markets, in Kuwait later this year.

International copyright conventions

A new order*, which enters into operation 24 August 1977, takes account of the accession of Uruguay to the International Convention for the Protection of Performers, Producers of Phonograms and Broadcasting Organisations (The Rome Convention).

Copies of the order may be obtained from Sales Branch, The Patent Office, Orpington, Kent BR5 3RD, or from any branch of HMSO.

*The Copyright (International Conventions) (Amendment No 3) Order 1977 (SI 1977 No 1256).

ECGD statutory return

The Export Guarantees Act 1975 as amended is the principal legislation under which the Export Credits Guarantee Department (ECGD) operates. In insuring new UK investment overseas against certain non-commercial risks it operates under the Overseas Investment and Export Guarantees Act 1972. The report to end June 1977, below, lists commitments under the 1975 Act as amended, and under the 1972 Act.

COMMITMENTS UNDER THE EXPORT GUARANTEES ACT 1975 AS AMENDED BY THE INTERNATIONAL FINANCE, TRADE AND AID ACT 1977

New guarantees and liabilities in quarter ended 30 June 1977

The aggregate amount of new guarantees issued involving sterling liabilities under the 1975 act amounted to £937 million under section 1, £542 million under section 2(1); and the aggregate amount of new liabilities incurred under section 5 of the act was £nil: a total of £1,479 million.

The aggregate amount of new guarantees involving foreign currency liabilities amounted to: SDR 66 million under section 1 and SDR nil under section 2(1): a total of SDR 66 million.

These represent ECGD's maximum liabilities under new guarantees issued during the quarter.

Amounts recorded against ECGD's statutory limits as at 30 June 1977

Total outstanding sums recorded against the sterling limit of £25,000 million under section 6 amounted to £19,274 million.

The following items are taken into account:

1 Liabilities in respect of guarantees under section 1 – £11,694 million.
2 Liabilities in respect of guarantees under section 2(1) – £5,488 million.
3 Amount of principal monies due under arrangements made under section 2(2) – £nil.
4 Amount of principal monies outstanding in respect of loans made under section 3(1) – £2,183 million.
5 Sums paid in respect of securities acquired and for the time being held under section 4 – £163 million.
6 Liabilities in respect of arrangements made under section 5 – £21 million.

The aggregate of 1 to 6 above will exceed the total liability to the extent that guarantees to banks may have been given under a different section from the related credit insurance guarantees.

Total outstanding sums recorded against the SDR limit of 10,000 million SDRs under section 6 amounted, after revaluation, to SDR 66 million.

The following items are taken into account:

1 Liabilities in respect of guarantees under section 1 – SDR 66 million.
2 Liabilities in respect of guarantees under section 2(1) – SDR nil.
3 Amount of principal monies due under arrangements made under Section 2(2) – SDR nil.

Guarantees are given under section 1 after consultation with the Export Guarantees Advisory Council. Guarantees under section 2(1) are those given in the national interest.

Section 2(2) enables ECGD to provide financial facilities (eg to make payments to match foreign competition on unusual credit terms and to enter into foreign currency loans should the need arise).

Section 3(1) enables ECGD to refinance banks which make finance available on special fixed interest rates for exports sold on credit terms of two years or more.

Section 4 enables ECGD to make finance available to acquire, hold and dispose of securities. This was used to provide aid loans before this function was transferred to the Ministry of Overseas Development.

Section 5 enables ECGD to give cost escalation cover.

OVERSEAS INVESTMENT AND EXPORT GUARANTEES ACT 1972

Liabilities in quarter ended 30 June 1977

During the quarter the aggregate amount of liabilities incurred was £5 million. This represents ECGD's maximum liabilities under agreements entered into during the quarter.

Amounts recorded against ECGD's statutory limit as at 30 June 1977

Total outstanding sums recorded against the limit of £250 million under section 2(4) of the 1972 act amounted to £63 million.

Virgin territory with ample scope

If northern France is, as suggested in the first of our regional market reports on France*, comparatively little known to British businessmen, the area to the south-east – Alsace, Lorraine and Franche-Comté – is even less so. Martin Lewis, vice-consul (commercial) in Strasbourg, explains why British exporters could do well to take a closer look at the region.

With Belgium and Luxembourg to the north, Germany across the Rhine to the east, and Switzerland to the south, the strategic geographical position of Alsace, Lorraine and Franche-Comté has guaranteed a profound effect upon the history and culture of the area, and also a particularly 'European' vocation – both politically and with regard to its commerce and industry. The importance of trade with prosperous neighbours manifests itself not only in import/export statistics, but also in foreign investments, accounting, over the past 20 years, for 40 per cent of industrial jobs created in Alsace and the approximately 50 000 so-called *frontaliers*, or international commuters, crossing the area's borders daily.

The area (50 000 km²), equal to approximately 10 per cent of France, is characterised by a wide variety of geographical features, and the population distribution varies accordingly: the Vosges mountains, which separate Alsace from 'la France de l'intérieur', and the Jura to the south are sparsely populated, while the principal centres of population and economic activity are Strasbourg (340 000), Nancy (370 000) and Metz (280 000) in the north; Mulhouse (120 000) on the Swiss border; and Besançon (200 000) in the south. With a total population of approximately 5 million and a working population of 1.8 million (9 per cent of that of France) divided between industry, services and agriculture in the ratio 3:2:1, Alsace/Lorraine/Franche-Comté together account for a higher-than-average 16 per cent by value of national exports and 15 per cent of imports.

Industry, agriculture and resources

Industry is prominent and varied throughout the region. Northern Lorraine has traditionally been one of the major iron and steel producing areas in France. based upon local coal and iron-ore deposits, with companies such as Usinor, Sacilor-Sollac and Chiers-Chatillon accounting for some 60 per cent of national production. Despite current difficulties reflected throughout Europe, the steel industry will remain a major factor in the Lorraine economy through restructuring and modernisation. Mechanical engineering, already concentrated near its sources of raw materials, is likely to be further encouraged in order to ease the unemployment problem. A striking example of this is the establishment at Batilly (Moselle), of a new Saviem factory for commercial vehicle manufacture, to ultimately employ 3000.

In addition, Lorraine has for many years been an important producer of glass, crockery and china, and there are growing rubber and chemical industries. The latter is centred on carbon- and petro-chemistry based at Carling, and mineral (salt) chemistry at Dombasle, with sodium carbonate production (principally for the glass industry) from companies such as Solvay and Rhône-Poulenc covering 85 per cent of national output.

In Alsace, one of the country's most prosperous regions, industry is again well-diversified, encompassing, for example, engineering (De Dietrich, Forges de Strasbourg, Timken-France), leather, furniture, building materials, and automobile and component production, the latter being dominated by General Motors at Strasbourg and Peugeot at Mulhouse. Textile machinery is also manufactured at Mulhouse, while the textile-producing industry (cotton, jute, wool, synthetics) is located over a wider area.

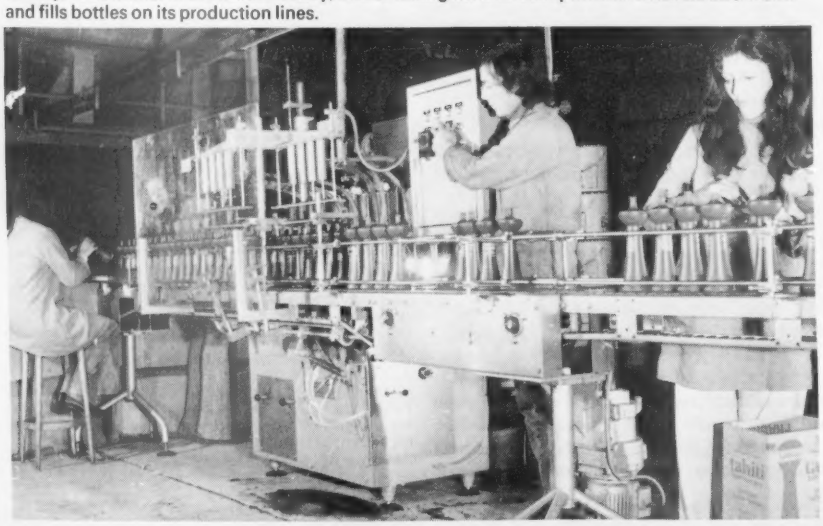
Strasbourg still holds the distinction of being the largest beer-producer in the country, with 10 breweries, among them Kronenbourg, Albra, Pêcheur, within staggering distance (despite all of which, an enterprising British firm has recently sold a new line of beer to a local producer). Food processing and oil refining are two further prominent Alsatian industries.

Heavy industry thrives in northern Franche-Comté, led by Peugeot at Sochaux-Montbéliard and Alsthom at Belfort. Further south is Besançon, the main centre of the French watch and clock-making industry, and home of a large number of small metal-working and precision-engineering firms. Other light industries in the surrounding Doubs and Jura produce optical equipment, scientific and musical instruments, furniture, and jewellery. Due principally to the automobile industry and its healthy infrastructure of heavy, light, and precision engineering, Franche-Comté exports cover its import bill more than three times over, while for the UK alone the ratio stands at 5:1.

Agriculture in both Lorraine and Franche-Comté is predominantly dairy-oriented. Alsace, including the fertile plain of the Rhine valley, produces cereals, vegetables, sugar-beet, tobacco and hops, while 30 000 acres of

* *Trade and Industry*, 15 July 1977, page 78.

The bottling line at Marchon France SA, part of Albright and Wilson's detergents sector. The factory, at St Mihiel in the Meuse Valley, makes detergent and shampoo raw materials and blows and fills bottles on its production lines.



Strasbourg consular district

vineyards on the eastern slopes of the Vosges produce good-quality white and rosé wines.

In addition to the salt, coal (approximately 10 million tons/year) and iron-ore deposits in Lorraine (the latter now being phased out), the principal raw material resources of the region are potash near Mulhouse with an annual production of approximately 1.75 million tons, and timber, principally pinewood, from the Vosges forests.

Transport and communications

Communications with Alsace/Lorraine/Franche-Comté are being continuously improved as a national priority, if not necessarily fast enough for local tastes. As the prime example of this, the Paris-Strasbourg autoroute, which runs through Metz (capital of the Moselle) and with links to Nancy (capital of Meurthe-et-Moselle) and Thionville, was completed in late 1976, thus opening up the area both towards the west and Germany. An autoroute under construction from Mulhouse to Beaune will similarly open communications towards the Mediterranean in 1980, and Thionville-Luxembourg and Toul-Dijon routes are under active study. Two new Rhine bridges are to be constructed, Ottmarsheim-Steinerstadt and Huningue-Weil, thus improving links between the developing autoroute network and Bâle-Mulhouse airport and the German autobahns.

Regular scheduled air transport from London is available to Bâle-Mulhouse, Colmar, Nancy, and Strasbourg (Dan-Air opened a new service earlier this year). All of these cities, together with Metz, Epinal, and Belfort, offer flights to Paris, while Strasbourg and Bâle-Mulhouse are linked to major centres throughout Europe.

The Rhine is Europe's principal commercial waterway, and Strasbourg, handling more than 1 million tons of cargo per month, is the largest port in the area and the sixth in France. Waterborne traffic is also serviced by Mulhouse, Nancy and Metz, the last now the principal cereals port in France. The proposed broad-gauge Rhine-Rhône canal, running from Kembs on the Rhine through Mulhouse, Montbéliard, Besançon and Dampierre to Dôle on the river Saône, will further improve communications with south and west France. The influence of this ambitious project has been increasingly evident over the past four years, exemplified by the establishment on its projected route of such important and diverse industries as the Compagnie Européenne de Turbines à Gaz (Alsthom subsidiary), GFD (metal-working), Vesoul-Belfort agricultural co-operative, and the Société d'Importation de Bois Exotiques.

All such developments in transport and communications are a natural and necessary consequence of the area's pole position at the crossroads of the west-east (Paris-Germany) and north-south (Ruhr-Mediterranean) trade axes. Alsace/Lorraine/Franche-Comté can thus provide for the British exporter, not only diverse industrial and affluent consumer markets, but also an ideal base with ample storage and distribution facilities, and local financial incentives, for approaching neighbouring European markets.

Foreign trade

The last consideration should, however, be seen as supplementary to the possibilities and prospects for British companies whether as exporters or investors, in this prosperous area; trade figures for 1976 illustrate the potential (see table).

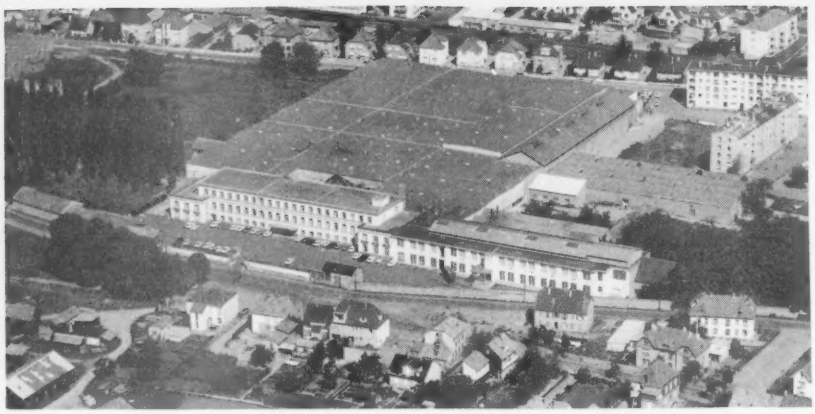
In 1976, the area as a whole imported goods worth a total of over Fr 38,000 million, or approximately 15 per cent of the national figure, and exported a similar amount representing 16 per cent of French exports. Although UK exports to Alsace, Lorraine and Franche-Comté increased from 1975 to 1976 by 38 per cent, 15 per cent and 28 per cent respectively, we still only export approximately half as much as we import from the area, with a particularly notable excess for Franche-Comté. More recent customs statistics encouragingly indicate continually expanding trade; in Lorraine, for example, the value of UK exports to the region increased by 44 per cent between the first quarters of 1976 and 1977 (compared with the EEC as a whole, which increased by 6 per cent), while over the same period Lorraine exports to the UK showed a 68.5 per cent increase (EEC 25 per cent).

In common with the diversity of the area's industry and commerce, British goods imported cover a wide range, including chemicals and rubber products, machinery and

Alsace/Lorraine/Franche-Comté trade million francs

Region	Total exports	Total imports	Exports to UK	Imports from UK
Alsace	14 942	17 875	505	396
Lorraine	13 915	17 068	260	201
Franche-Comté	9 898	3 631	496	95
TOTAL	38 755	38 574	1 261	692

Source: regional customs.



An aerial view of the Tricofrance factory – a Courtaulds subsidiary – at Colmar.

mechanical equipment, textiles, electrical equipment and components, and food and agricultural produce.

Possibilities for British exporters

As an export market, the Alsace/Lorraine/Franche-Comté area of France offers a challenging, affluent, and potentially increasingly rewarding prospect for British suppliers, who have, however, as yet to arrive in force. Competition is strong, especially from the neighbouring European countries which, due to their proximity and also a head-start from within the EEC, have established themselves as traditional exporters to the area: Germany, for example, accounts for almost half of Alsatian foreign trade; our other principal competitors include Belgium, Holland, Switzerland, Italy, and the United States.

It is, however, becoming abundantly evident that local customers are finding their traditional suppliers, especially in Germany and Switzerland, increasingly hard to live with, due in part to currency exchange rates and also to the prevalent price controls. The search is thus on for alternative, more competitively-priced suppliers, for which Britain is a logical choice. There is a wide-ranging and genuine interest in British products, and importantly a real appreciation of their quality and market-appeal, not only for traditional lines such as tea and whisky, but also for high intrinsic value, manufactured goods such as, for example, machine-tools, furniture and carpets, sports (fishing and mountaineering) equipment, and garden and agricultural machinery. It is up to the British manufacturer to capitalise on these advantages now, to research and visit the market, to think French and francs, and to follow-up leads and sales rapidly.

In view of the area's industrial diversity, an over-selective appraisal of prospects for British exporters could be misleading. Recent customs statistics indicate that imports of cars, motorcycles, and cycles, textiles, and electrical machinery and equipment, for example, show a greater increase for Alsace/Lorraine than the national average. Some of these sectors and others meriting close consideration at present are discussed briefly below:

- The automobile industry, with its attendant component subcontractors, is prospering and expanding above all. Peugeot at Mulhouse and Sochaux-Montbéliard, near Belfort, is the undoubted leader here, apparently having only its own production and export records to beat, and investing Fr 1100 million in 1977-78 on new plant and machinery at Mulhouse. General Motors has recently announced the doubling of automatic transmission production at its Strasbourg works, and is considering the parallel manufacture of advanced-technology carburettors.
- New investments are being made in the chemical industry throughout the area. Butachimie (Rhône-Poulenc subsidiary), for example, is at present commissioning a Fr 700 million nylon-constituent plant at Chalampé (Haut-Rhin), while a new Solvay chlorine production unit is under construction at its existing complex at Tavaux (Jura). In association principally with the chemical and extractive industries, numerous anti-pollution projects are foreseen for which the main co-ordinating and financial role is played by the inter-regional water authority, the Agence du Bassin Rhin-Meuse. The agency's programme for 1977 to 1981 calls for investments totalling approximately Fr 460 million, for industrial and local authority purification installations.
- The milk, cheese, and associated products industries have seen continual re-equipment and modernisation – in Lorraine for example accounting for Fr 100 million over the past five years – a process likely to continue. The market for modern milk treatment machines and refrigeration tanks is still far from satisfied (approximately 50 per cent), while the most modern enterprises are constantly seeking means and equipment to diversify production into desserts, for example, as the only practical way to increase milk-product consumption. Rationalisation of the industry by the grouping of smaller enterprises also contributes to the need for new equipment, as exemplified by the Unicolait co-operative at Sarrebourg (Moselle) which, in addition, is planning a high-capacity cheese factory.
- As a complement to British exports of livestock and meat which already find a ready market in France, possibilities for meat-processing and storage equipment would appear to be excellent. The existing meat treatment facilities are far from satisfying local needs and sadly under-equipped, particularly with respect to refrigerated depots and low-temperature freezing plant. For the whole Vosges département, public storage or freezing facilities are non-existent while private enterprise contributes 240 m^3.
- In the cotton spinning and weaving industry, for which Lorraine (principally Vosges) represents 28 per cent and 34 per cent respectively of national capacity, modernisation of machinery is seen as one prerequisite for survival, the average vintage of equipment in use being 12 years. The industry as a whole foresees complete renewal of machinery before 1985, requiring annual investments of approximately Fr 420 million – 35 per cent more than in the period 1970 to 1975.

These then are some, but by no means all, of the industrial sectors where British exporters may seek to prosper. British manufacturers of domestic consumer goods, adaptable to local tastes and styling, will also find rewarding outlets. Taking hyper and supermarket sales surfaces as a function of population, six of the 10 départements comprising Alsace, Lorraine, and Franche-Comté are situated within the French 'top 20'.

In order to gauge local competition and reaction, in particular for consumer goods, British suppliers could usefully explore the Strasbourg spring and autumn trade fairs; other provincial fairs are held at Mulhouse and Nancy, and at Metz in the new inter-

The new Quindus (GKN subsidiary) industrial hardware centre near Strasbourg, opened in May this year.

national conference and exhibition centre to be inaugurated later this year. Specialist exhibitions include 'Micronora' (precision engineering) at Besançon and this year (17 to 21 October) 'Midest' – international market of subcontracting – at Strasbourg. For the future, plans are under discussion for an international trade centre (uniting services for importers and exporters) at Strasbourg, and an international business and storage facility at Ennery, situated at the junction of the Paris-Strasbourg and Thionville-Metz autoroutes.

Due to its strategic geographical and economic position giving ease of access to the markets not only of France, but also to those of its four neighbouring countries, a large number of foreign companies have subsidiaries in the area; its industrial and manufacturing dependence in this respect is predictably greater than any other French region, with the exception of Paris. A majority, for obvious reasons, are German, and many are American (in addition to those mentioned above, Clark Equipment, Eli-Lilly, Remington, Honeywell-Bull). British interests are to date only a handful, among them Quindus (GKN) and Tricofrance (Courtaulds), but potential investors in manufacturing or distribution facilities will find ample scope and incentive, in particular in those regions of actual or potential unemployment such as the Lorraine steel-making centres. Here, priority is being given by local authorities to the establishment of specific selected industries, such as specialised machine-tools, paper pulp, and processed foods.

Alsace/Lorraine/Franche-Comté is (almost) virgin territory for British exporters, and undoubtedly deserves their closer attention. The British consulate-general in Strasbourg will be glad to welcome intrepid explorers, and to assist and advise via the British Overseas Trade Board where possible on local contacts, conditions, and markets.

EEC information

Free service for businessmen! The EEC Information Unit helps firms of all types and sizes by - answering general questions about EEC membership and by guiding them where necessary to more specialised information sources.
New customers are always welcome, particularly firms new to EEC questions.
The unit's address is:
EEC Information Unit,
Department of Industry,
1 Victoria Street,
London SW1H 0ET.
Tel. 01-215 4301 (six lines).

Overseas trade
export successes

Further Davy contracts for Brazilian steel project

Davy Ashmore International Ltd, the Stockton-based Davy company, has won a further order valued at over £40 million from Acominas Gerais S.A. (Acominas), Brazil.

This latest order is for the coke oven plant to be constructed as part of the new integrated iron and steelworks being built at Ouro Branco, near Belo Horizonte, in the state of Minas Gerais. Woodall-Duckham Ltd, of Crawley, has been appointed as principal sub-contractor for this contract.

The ovens will be designed to produce 1 130 000 tonnes of coke per year and will comprise two batteries each of 53 ovens. Provision will be made for coal preheating and dry coke cooling to be added at a later date.

This is the second contract of a package of contracts which is being negotiated between Acominas and Davy. These contracts are expected ultimately to reach a total value approaching £300 million of which some £150 million to £200 million will comprise UK exports. The British portion is backed by a UK credit financing arrangement by Morgan Grenfell and Co Ltd, and underwritten by the Export Credits Guarantee Department.

Further information: circle 637

Biscuit-making plant for S. America

An Argentinian order in excess of £3 million has been placed with the biscuit machinery division of Baker Perkins, of Peterborough, by Sasetru Alimentos Argentinos of Buenos Aires.

The order is for three lines of automatic biscuit-making plant which will produce 130 tonnes of biscuits in a 16-hour day. The product range will include cream crackers and a variety of local specialities.

The 120 m × 1.2 m wide ovens, which will be made at Baker Perkins' factory at Bedewell, Hebburn-on-Tyne, will be the largest yet installed in South America. All other items called for by the contract will be made at the company's Peterborough works and will be complemented by equipment manufactured in the Argentine.

Baker Perkins has been actively associated with the project at all stages and will be responsible for commissioning the plant. The British company will also provide on-site training for Argentinian staff and technicians to ensure optimum product quality is achieved. The factory is expected to come on-stream at the end of 1978.

Further information: circle 638

Limpet marine board for French ships

Four gas carriers under construction in a French shipyard will incorporate fire-resistant bulkheads and linings formed from TAC Limpet marine board.

The £170,000 order was received from Chantiers de L'Atlantique, St Nazaire, which is building the vessels – two of 61 500 dwt and the others 36 540 dwt. Approximately 2500 sheets of Limpet marine board are called for in 12 mm to 30 mm thicknesses for partitions, ceilings and doors. Despatches will start towards the end of the year and continue into 1978, meeting the ship construction schedules.

Further information: circle 639

Sweden buys Photomec film processors

Photomec (London) Ltd of St Albans is to supply one of its film processing machines to AB Nordisk Filmkopia of Stockholm.

The wide modular design of the machine enables Eastman colour positive II material to be processed at 90 ft per minute (1650 m per hour) on a machine 15 ft 7 in (4.75 m) long, 3 ft 4 in (1.02 m) wide and 6 ft (1.83 m) high. These dimensions accommodate circulation, temperature control, agitation and replenishment control.

Two similar film processing machines have been ordered by another Swedish company, Film Labor of Stockholm.

Further information: circle 640

British plant for Norwegian rubber manufacturer

Farrel Bridge of Rochdale has supplied the eighth drop-door Banbury mixer in the last 10 years to Norway for processing rubber.

Purchased through Struksnaes and Lund A/S of Oslo, the £100,000 plus investment comprises a model 3-D Banbury mixer with the latest three-zone automatic water tempering system and featuring semi-automatic process control. Batch weights are of the order of 65 kilograms.

The new plant will be used in conjunction

with an existing Farrel Bridge 22 × 60 mill which was purchased five years ago and which will now act as the Banbury sheeting mill, enabling the customer to mill and mix his own rubber from primary raw materials.

Further information: circle 641

British cladding to be used in Poland

Some £1.3-million-worth of British wall and roof cladding, decking and ventilators has been specified for use on one of the world's largest PVC production plants under construction at Wlockawek in Poland.

H. H. Robertson of Ellesmere Port is the latest British company to sign a protocol agreement for a share in the £170 million project, the main contract for which was awarded to Petrocarbon Developments.

Robertson is supplying a total of around 100 000 m² of protected metal cladding and decking, together with louvres and ridge ventilators, for six of the main buildings in the complex, which will produce around 200 000 tons of PVC annually as well as large quantities of caustic soda and solvents.

Further information: circle 642

Rotork wins second Sines contract

Rotork Controls Ltd of Bath, has been awarded a contract valued at over £300,000 for electric valve actuators and ancillary products for the new marine oil terminal under construction at Sines in Portugal.

Said to be one of the world's largest installations of its kind, the terminal will serve the nearby Petrosul refinery, for which Rotork has already supplied more than 300 actuators. A further 500 Syncropak actuators of all sizes, and a large number of Rotork's valve-position switch units, have been specified for the terminal. They will be used on wedge-gate valves ranging in size from 2 to 48 in, being supplied by the Portuguese valve makers Fenal and Efacec.

Further information: circle 644

Anchorpac wins more Belgian orders

Anchorpac – recently awarded one of the largest single orders ever placed with a British manufacturer for the design of a complex transfer station and the manufacture and installation of a complete waste-handling system in Belgium – has received further extensions to this contract, now valued at £2 million (excluding civil engineering costs).

Six transfer stations

The order, placed by Intercommunal Maatschapi Interleuven, now covers the supply of six Anchorpac transfer stations each equipped with powerful conveyor-fed P-65 refuse compactors which will be traversed fore and aft.

On completion, says Anchorpac, this Belgian scheme will be the most advanced of its type in Europe processing all industrial, commercial and domestic waste generated by the entire area surrounding Louvain and near-by cities.

Further information: circle 645

Pye engineers fly off to Liberia

Tony Bryan, Dick Smith and Brian Horton (left to right), three of Pye Telecommunications Ltd's installation engineers who left Cambridge Airport recently for Monrovia, capital of Liberia, together with L300 UHF multi-channel link equipment manufactured at the company's Haverhill plant. The engineers will be installing the equipment which will be used to improve the telephone network across Liberia.

Further information: circle 643

Second reactor contract for Rigging International

Rigging International Europe, the engineering and heavy-lift rigging contracting company, has won its second large transportation contract for the Scandinavian power industry.

In December 1975, Rigging International transported the first reactor to be erected at Swedish National Electricity's power station at Forsmark on the east coast of Sweden, and this new contract, worth over $175,000 is for the transportation by sea of Forsmark no. 2 reactor and cover from the factory at Karlskrona, 450 miles away.

Under the contract, which has been awarded by Uddcomb, the company manufacturing the reactor, Rigging International is responsible for engineering and planning, load-out from the factory, design detail and installation of sea fastening, marine transportation, off-loading, and transportation over 1½ km of road to the power station site.

Further information: circle 646

Rural electrification project

Dale Electric, of Yorkshire, generating set manufacturer, has won a £1.3 million contract for a rural electrification project in Nigeria.

The contract, signed in Nigeria last week, is with Oyo State Ministry of Works and Housing. The order, the largest ever won by Dale, is for generating sets, ancillary equipment and street lighting for the Secretariat complex in the state's capital, Ibadan.

The project represents a departure for Dale Electric. As main contractors, the majority of the value will be in non-generating set items. Only £350,000 of the £1.3 million consists of diesel powered generating sets to be manufactured at Dale's Filey factory.

Further information: circle 647

Nigerian contracts for UK architects

Architect and planners, Lobb and Partners International, in association with Steveben and Associates of Kaduna, have been appointed to design a new residential technical school at Bauchi, Nigeria for the Bauchi State Ministry of Education.

Also in association with Steveben and Associates, the firm has been appointed consultants to prepare a master plan for 4000 acres of landscaped recreational parkland, south of the Liberty Dam at Jos, Plateau State, Nigeria, for the Jos Metropolitan Development Board.

Further information: circle 648

Overseas trade country data

Australia

Passenger motor vehicles. A notice in *Trade and Industry*, 22 July reported a further reference had been sent to the Industries Assistance Commission in respect of passenger motor vehicles for inquiry and report within 60 days, ie by 12 September 1977. A public hearing was held in Melbourne on 8 August 1977. Further details will be published when available.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5319. Ref: CRE 1817/76

Domestic electric chest-type freezers: extension of quota period. A notice in *Trade and Industry*, 27 August, 1976, reported the establishment of a system of global import licensing for 20 000 units of domestic chest-type freezers having a gross internal capacity of not more than 350 litres, of a kind falling within tariff item 84-15.9.

The Australian government has just announced the continuation of the current arrangmeent for the six-month period ending 9 February 1978, the quota being 10 000 units. The extension is an interim measure due to a delay in the submission of the Industries Assistance Commission final report on domestic electric freezers.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 468/469/401.

Reference on clothing, textiles and footwear. The Industries Assistance Commission has now announced details of the arrangements for the public hearings on the draft reports covering textiles, clothing, footwear and the general report covering all three industries.

Witnesses who intend to give evidence at the public hearings which begin on 12 September in Melbourne and Sydney, should inform the Secretary, Industries Assistance Commission, PO Box 80, Canberra ACT 2600, immediately by telex (62283 a/b INDCOM) of the report(s) on which they propose to submit evidence and the location. It should be noted that the original IAC deadline of 12 August has been extended by one week to 19 August.

Evidence relating to the broad issues in the general report should be submitted (eight copies) to the IAC by 5 September. Where evidence relates to the various industry reports, the commission will accept submissions in writing (six copies) from witnesses who have already been sworn. It will not be necessary to present such submissions at the hearings as they will be treated as supplementary evidence. They should be submitted to the commission not later than 12 September 1977. Any confidential material should be clearly indicated.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5319. Ref: CRE 671/77-677/77

Canada

Prolonged-wear contact lenses. The Canadian Department of Health and Welfare issued a warning letter on 27 May about the damage which could be caused by the use of prolonged-wear contact lenses. The letter recommends that this type of contact lens should be used only for therapeutic reasons.

Copies of the letter are available from CRE 01-215 5397.

Chile

Exchange rates. The Chilean Central Bank has now established the daily rate of exchange for the period 5 August to 4 September. Copies of the list are available.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5289.

Certain milk products. Ministry of Finance decree 616, published in the *Diario Oficial* on 21 July 1977, introduces specific duties which will remain in force for three months from 23 July 1977 which will affect the following products:

Further information

In many cases further information on the notices published on these pages is available to British exporters from the Department of Trade. The main branches concerned are: Commercial Relations and Export (CRE) Division, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET (tel: direct dialling); and Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section (OTAR), Export Data Branch, Export Services and Promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel: 01-248 5757). In each case, the relevant information source is indicated at the end of the notice by its initials (OTAR or CRE) and, in the case of OTAR, the telephone extension.

Tariff no.	Commodity	Specific duties $*
04.02.02.00 (01)	Powder milk, without cream	0.52 per kg
04.02.02.00 (99)	Other types of milk	0.52 per kg

These temporary specific duties are in addition to the existing *ad valorem* duties of 20 per cent.

* Chilean Peso.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 474/476.

Fiji

Prohibited imports. The Fiji government has issued an amendment to the Customs (Prohibited Imports) Order 1975 so that import of the following is prohibited except in accordance with the terms of a licence granted by the Secretary for Commerce and Industry.

Portland cement falling under customs tariff item 25.23.00.00.

Inquiries: OTAR 01/248 5757 ext. 469/468/401.

Indonesia

Import duty exemption on industrial sewing machines. The Indonesian Minister of Finance has announced, with effect from 1 January 1977, partial exemption from import duty and import sales tax on the import of industrial sewing machines weighing a maximum of 25 kg including motor, 20 kg without motor and pedal, 60 kg with motor and pedal.

The import duty is now 20 per cent and the sales tax 10 per cent.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 469/401/468.

Iraq

Arabic language law. A new law has been enacted in Iraq – no. 64 of 1977, 'Law Preserving the Purity of the Arabic Language'. It was published in the *Official Gazette* 2587, 16 May, and came into force on 16 August.

Article 5 particularly concerns industrial property and an unofficial translation contains the following provisions:

1 Trade marks, commercial notices, patents and designs which take a distinct form such as names, signatures, words, letters, figures, addresses, stamps or conspicuous designs shall be written in Arabic.
2 A mark or shape may be written in a foreign language in addition to Arabic, provided the Arabic is larger and more conspicuous.
3 Trade marks which were registered before the law came into force and do not conform to article 5 require a new registration within six months.

A copy of a translation of the new law is available for public inspection in the Chancery House Annexe, Science Reference Library (Holborn Division), Chancery House, Lower Ground Floor, Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1AY.

Malta

Import duty amendments. The Malta *Government Gazette* dated 22 July 1977 contained act 29 of 1977 amending the Import

Duty Act of 1976. The following goods are affected:

CCCN	Description	New import duty rate: General	EEC
ex 33.06	Room deodorisers	27%	13%
ex 38.19	Deodorants and meat tenderisers	Free	Free
ex 73.21 ex 76.08 87.03	Equipment for use in scaffolding	Free	Free
	A Vehicles for use in industry, agriculture and construction	30%	15%
	B Other	70%	55%

No further information is available:
Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 458/461.

Mauritius

Import deposit regulations. The import deposit of 50 per cent announced in Mauritius government notice 40 of 5 March has now been reduced to 35 per cent.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 471/472/462/473.

New Zealand

Motor vehicle parts. The Commission of Inquiry into the Distribution of Motor Vehicle Parts has been granted an extension of time in which to make its report to the government. The original reporting date of 31 July 1977, as stated in *Trade and Industry* of 20 May 1977, has been extended to 30 November 1977. This has arisen because of the complexity of the inquiry and the large number of submissions being made. No further information is available.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 401/468/469.

Singapore

Crash bars on motor-cycles. The Singapore government has announced that crash bars are to be fitted on all motor-cycles having cylinder capacity of more than 200 cc. Motor-cycles registered before 1 July 1977, are to be fitted with crash bars by 1 July 1978. These crash bars should conform to the following specifications:

1 Crash bars must not be wider than the handle-bar.
2 Crash bars must be made of steel pipe.
3 The external diameter of the pipe must not be less than 25 mm.
4 *Front crash bar*
This consists of a continuous loop extending on both sides of the motor-cycle.
a The top part must be bolted to the frame of the motor-cycle.
b The bottom part has two ends. Each end must be welded to a bracket, which is bolted to the frame at a point level with the front foot-rests.
c The bracket must be made of steel.
d The thickness of the bracket must be at least 5 mm and the width must not be less than the diameter of the pipe.
e The length of the bracket must be just clear of the exhaust pipe coming out from the engine.
5 *Rear crash bar*
This consists of two half-loops on the two sides of the motor-cycle.
a The top part must be bolted to the frame.
b The bottom part is to be bolted to the frame of the motor-cycle. If this is not possible, it must be welded to a bracket.
c The bracket must be made of steel.
d The thickness of the bracket must not be less than 5 mm and the width must not be less than the diameter of the pipe.
e The length of the bracket behind the rear foot-rest must not exceed 120 mm.
f The bracket is to be bolted to the frame of the motor-cycle at a level with the rear foot-rests.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 401/468/469.

South Africa

Economic development programme 1976-81: summary and policy implications. A copy of this document will be available for reference in the Statistics and Market Intelligence Library (SMIL), Room D19, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU, during the next two weeks and thereafter can be obtained on loan.

Inquiries: SMIL 01-248 5757 ext. 368/369.

Spain

Gambling equipment. The Spanish *State Gazette* of 15 June 1977, published royal decree 1337/1977 of 10 June, approving the rules of the setting up of gaming casinos. The rules include the total number of casinos to be licensed; their balanced distribution throughout the Spanish territory; and the possibility of excluding the setting up of casinos in certain highly urbanised areas.

The *State Gazette* of 9 July 1977, published an order of 30 May on foreign investment in companies concerned with running gaming casinos.

English translation of the above regulations are available.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 461/458/459/460.

Thailand

Syringes and aluminium wire. The Thai Ministry of Finance has issued notice C3/1977 which came into force on 3 June 1977 whereby tariff items CCCN 70.17 and CCCN 76.13 are amended to read as follows:

Heading no.	Classification	Rate of duty: Normal rate: *Ad val* %	Normal rate: *Ad naturam* Unit	Normal rate: *Ad naturam* Per unit (Baht)	Reduced rate: *Ad val* %	Reduced rate: *Ad naturam* Unit	Reduced rate: *Ad naturam* Per unit (Baht)
70.17	Syringe glass tubes for injection	20	—	—	10	—	—
76.13	Gauze, cloth, grill, netting, reinforcing fabric and similar materials, of aluminium wire	30	—	—	25	—	—

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 401/468/469.

Special import fee on scientific laboratory glassware. The Thai Board of Investment has issued notice 20/2520 whereby a special fee of 10 per cent of the cif price is placed on the import of scientific laboratory glassware under CCCN 70.17a except volumetric glassware specifically pipettes, burettes and measuring cylinders.

The Board of Investment shall determine which imports fall into this category and it shall inform the customs.

This notice came into effect on 28 June and remains in force until 3 May 1978.

Inquiries: 01-248 5757 ext. 401/468/469.

United States

Imports of speciality steels under quota. A new quota period has now opened. The following table, derived from statistics made available by the US Customs Service, shows the products which are subject to quotas, the US quotas from the EEC for the 12 months 14 June 1977 to 13 June 1978, and US imports of the products concerned from the EEC during this period, as at 5 August:

Pounds weight

Product	US import quotas for 12 months 14 June 1977 to 13 June 1978	US imports during this period as at 5 August 1977
Sheet and strips of stainless steel (item 923.20)	32 600 000	6 830 040
Plates of stainless steel (item 923.21)	6 000 000	873 621
Bars of stainless steel (item 923.22)	5 200 000	910 739
Wire rods of stainless steel (item 923.23)	15 200 000	Quota filled
Bearing steel (item 923.25)	7 000 000	68 929
Alloy tool steel (item 923.26)	7 000 000	Quota filled

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5629.

Toxic Substances Control Act. On 2 August the Environmental Protection Agency published in the *Federal Register* information relating to amendment of the inventory reporting regulations required under the act. The new proposals would require some manufacturers:

1 to report the identity of each chemical substance manufactured (or imported) for a commercial purpose and the site of such manufacture;

2 to estimate the amount of each such chemical substance manufactured or imported at each site;
3 to indicate whether each such chemical substance is manufactured and used only within one site; and
4 to indicate whether the respondent is a manufacturer, processor and/or importer of each such chemical substance.

Oral comments on the proposed regulations will be taken on 24 August 1977 at the US Department of Agriculture, Washington DC. Written comments are required by 16 September 1977 and should be sent to the Federal Register Section (WH 557), Office of Toxic Substances, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M Street SW, Washington DC 20460.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5327.

Food ingredient. The *Federal Register*, dated 2 August 1977, published details of a proposal by the Food and Drug Administration to affirm as Gras – liquorice, glycyrrhiza and ammoniated glycyrrhizin with specific limitations. Written comments (five copies) by 3 October 1977 to Food and Drug Administration, Room 4-65, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857.

A copy of the text is available.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 456/457/7312.

Food ingredients. The *Federal Register*, dated 29 July 1977, published details proposed by the Food and Drug Administration to recognise beeswax, sorbose and cloves as a food ingredient affirmed as Gras. Written comments (four copies) by 27 September 1977 to Food and Drug Administration, Room 4-65, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857.

A copy of the text is available.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 456/457/7312.

Wine labelling. The *Federal Register*, dated 29 July 1977, published details proposed by the Bureau of Alcohol, Firearms and Tobacco to postpone the dates of the previously scheduled public hearings in Washington DC and San Francisco. The hearing in Washington DC is on 27 to 28 September and in San Francisco on 1 to 3 November.

A copy of the text is available.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 456/457/7312.

Venezuela

Duty exemption. The government of Venezuela has just announced that imports of sports goods by all duly registered sports organisations will be free of duty. Imports by commercial organisations will continue to attract duty.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 474/476.

Zambia

Customs tariff changes. The Customs and Excise (Suspension) (Amendments) Regulations nos. 3 and 4 1977 have amended the rate of duty for the following headings:

85.14.19, 85.14.21, 85.14.39, 92.11.29, 92.12.91, 92.12.92

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 473.

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Department of Trade's *Hints to Businessmen* booklets cover over 100 countries individually, and provide invaluable information on such subjects as industries, economic factors, the extent of imports and exports, population, travel, hotels, climate, currency and public holidays. Copies are available to British businessmen visiting any country on export business.
Apply to: Export Services and Promotions Division, Department of Trade, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel. 01-248 5757 ext. 7146).

For the wheels of the world

Making a stock check in a mountain of tyres is John Austin, marketing director of Geo H. Hughes of Birmingham, who will offer a full range of his company's products to equipment manufacturers and service agents when he visits Kenya, Tanzania and Zambia with the Birmingham Chamber of Industry and Commerce from 11 to 28 September. Tyres from this factory in the midlands are produced for wheels used on light agricultural and industrial equipment, baby carriages, invalid chairs and other commercial and domestic appliances in many parts of the world.

Statistics

The economy: selected indicators

Series are seasonally adjusted except where shown otherwise

	Gross domestic product (average estimate)	Consumers' expenditure	Fixed capital expenditure			Changes in stocks				Balance of payments		
			Total	of which: Manufacturing industry	of which: Distributive and service industries excl. shipping	Total	of which: Manufacturing industry	of which: Wholesalers	of which: Retailers	Current balance	Visible balance	Invisible balance
	at 1970 prices		at 1970 prices			at 1970 prices				at current prices		
Base of index Series in Stock level at end-1976	1970	£ million	£ million			£ million				£ million		
						18,218	10,404	1,830	1,977			
1970	100.0	31,644	9,453	2,130	1,799	442	325	68	−14	733	−25	758
1971	101.7	32,505	9,681	1,991	1,930	99	−148	52	22	1,087	280	807
1972	104.3	34,402	9,870	1,739	2,071	39	−145	48	15	131	−702	833
1973	110.2	36,003	10,279	1,872	2,390	1,127	404	102	382	−752	−2,334	1,582
1974	109.9	35,590	10,124	2,024	2,289	602	666	81	−111	−3,380	−5,221	1,841
1975	107.7	35,234	9,991	1,737	1,970	−680	−392	−111	−23	−1,650	−3,195	1,545
1976	108.9	35,290	9,556	1,651	1,901	−2	5	23	1	−1,458	−3,574	2,116
1975 1st qtr.	109.5	8,988	2,534	471	492	−125	18	−31	−38	−541	−947	406
2nd qtr.	107.4	8,833	2,474	444	498	−267	−105	−54	−66	−309	−655	346
3rd qtr.	106.6	8,724	2,540	416	501	−208	−234	−29	38	−579	−967	388
4th qtr.	107.4	8,689	2,443	406	480	−80	−70	4	43	−221	−626	405
1976 1st qtr.	109.1	8,811	2,460	402	452	25	31	24	12	−117	−534	417
2nd qtr.	108.2	8,730	2,394	408	478	−97	−115	−22	−55	−397	−915	518
3rd qtr.	108.3	8,824	2,392	418	484	−22	4	10	22	−538	−1,143	605
4th qtr.	110.0	8,925	2,310	422	486	92	86	11	22	−406	−982	576
1977 1st qtr.	109.1	8,720	2,235	414	478	255	180	52	80	−327	−968	641
2nd qtr.		8,670pe								−50	−667	660 e
% change last 2 qtrs. on prev. 2 qtrs.	+1.2	−2.0	−5.0	−2.0	−2.0							
on a year earlier	+1.2	−0.9	−7.2	+1.0	—							

	Industrial production		Personal expenditure		Prices and costs (NOT seasonally adjusted)					Labour (UK)			Visible trade (Volume)	
	Total all industries	Total manufacturing industries	Retail sales	Cars: new registrations	Retail prices	% increase on a year earlier	Wholesale prices: all manufacturing industry: basic materials and fuel used	Wholesale prices: all manufacturing industry: manufactured products: home sales	Basic hourly wage rates of manual workers (all industries and services)	Unemployed excluding school leavers and adult students: mid-month count	Unemployed excluding school leavers and adult students: % of total employees	Unfilled vacancies for adults: mid-month count	Export	Import
	at 1970 prices		at 1971 prices	monthly averages									On a balance of payments basis at 1970 prices	
Base of index £m in base year Series in	1970	1970	1971 15,895	thousands	Jan. 1974		1970	1970	July 1972	thousands		thousands	1970 7,907	1970 7,932
1971	100.3	99.5	100.0	108.5	153.4†	9.4	104.6	109.0	88.9	775.8	3.4	130.9	106.7	104.2
1972	102.5	102.1	105.8	138.6	164.3†	7.1	109.2	114.8	101.4	854.9	3.7	147.3	107.1	116.7
1973	110.0	110.7	110.7	137.1	179.4†	9.2	144.5	123.2	115.6	611.0	2.6	307.0	122.2	133.8
1974	107.0	109.1	109.9	102.8	108.5	16.0	215.3	152.0	138.7	599.7ø	2.6ø	302.7ø	131.2	136.2
1975	101.8	102.5	107.9	97.2	134.8	24.2	235.4	188.7	179.8	929.0	3.9	150.0ø	125.6	126.4
1976	102.3	103.5	108.1	104.7	157.1	16.5	299.0	219.6	214.5	1,269.8ø	5.4ø	120.4ø	135.9	134.2
1976 1st qtr.	102.0	102.2	107.3	103	149.4	22.5	266.5	206.9	205.5	1,220.3	5.2	116.7	131.5	126.1
2nd qtr.	102.5	103.7	107.6	106	154.9	16.0	292.6	214.4	212.8	1,252.1	5.3	119.4	137.1	134.6
3rd qtr.	101.6	103.7	108.9	97	158.5	13.7	306.8	223.2	218.6	1,305.5	5.5	123.6	134.2	137.9
4th qtr.	103.0	104.5	108.5	113	165.8	15.0	329.9	233.9	220.6	1,316.8ø	5.6ø	..	140.8	138.1
1977 1st qtr.	103.5	105.4	105.0	104	174.1	16.5	341.5	248.0	224.6	1,330.2	5.6	..	140.7	142.4
2nd qtr.	102.8 p	103.8 p	103.9	102	181.9	17.4	347.8	259.2	227.1 p	1,330.4	5.6	159.2	148.8	144.0
1976 May	104.5	106.5	106.8	110	155.2	15.4	292.0	214.8	211.7	1,253.3	5.3	120.0	137.2	134.7
June	100.5	101.2	107.3	91	156.0	13.8	299.6	217.0	216.6	1,261.1	5.3	115.7	138.5	137.1
July	101.5	103.8	108.8	91	156.3	12.9	302.0	219.8	219.0	1,288.9	5.5	118.6	130.4	139.4
Aug.	100.7	102.7	108.9	115	158.5	13.8	304.0	223.4	219.1	1,308.8	5.6	126.2	134.9	133.7
Sept.	102.5	104.5	108.9	86	160.6	14.3	314.4	226.3	219.2	1,318.7	5.6	125.9	137.3	140.4
Oct.	102.7	104.8	108.1	109	163.5	14.7	327.7	230.0	219.5	1,307.9	5.5	124.5	140.8	140.6
Nov.	103.3	104.9	109.2	119	165.8	15.0	331.8	234.6	220.7	..	..	..	138.1	140.1
Dec.	103.1	103.7	108.3	111	168.0	15.1	330.2	237.2	221.5	1,325.7 e	5.6 e	..	143.3	133.6
1977 Jan.	103.6	105.2	106.7	93	172.4	16.6	337.8	244.9	223.8	1,338.2	5.7	..	141.0	153.9
Feb.	103.6	105.7	105.7	118	174.1	16.2	339.5	248.2	224.8	1,331.4	5.6	150.5	138.3	133.8
Mar.	103.2	105.4	103.1	102	175.8	16.7	347.2	250.8	225.2	1,321.1	5.6	157.3	142.9	139.4
Apr.	103.0	104.2	103.4	108	180.3	17.5	349.7	255.4	226.0	1,322.6	5.6	158.5	148.8	138.6
May	104.6	106.3	104.4	108	181.7	17.1	348.3	259.8	226.8	1,315.9	5.6	161.2	145.0	142.2
June	100.7 p	100.9 p	103.8	90	183.6	17.7	345.3 p	262.4 p	228.4 p	1,352.9	5.7	157.8	152.5	151.3
July			107½ p		183.8	17.6	345.8 p	265.8 p		1,393.8 p	5.9	152.7 p	152.1 p	149.0 p
% change latest 3 months on prev. 3 months	−0.7	−1.6	+1.1	−2.2	+3.6		+0.3	+4.5	+1.1	+2.2			+ 4½	+7½
on a year earlier	+0.3	—	−2.3	−3.5	+17.5		+16.3	+20.9	+6.7	+6.8			+11	+7½

p Provisional pe Preliminary estimate † Base of index Jan. 1962 = 100 .. Not available ø Average of available months e Estimate **Inquiries:** 01-215 3453

Current account of the United Kingdom balance of payments for July

£ million seasonally adjusted

	Current balance	Visible balance: Trade in goods	Invisible balance: Services and other current transactions
1975	−1 650	−3 195	+1 545
1976	−1 458	−3 574	+2 116
1976			
1st qtr	−117	−534	+417
2nd qtr	−397	−915	+518
3rd qtr	−538	−1 143	+605
4th qtr	−406	−982	+576
1977			
1st qtr	−327	−968	+641
2nd qtr	−50	−710	+660 a
1977			
February	+25	−188	+213 b
March	−28	−242	+214 b
April	+76	−144	+220 a
May	−45	−265	+220 a
June	−81	−301	+220 a
July	−36	−256	+220 a
1977			
Feb-Apr	+74	−573	+647 a
May-Jul	−163	−823	+660 a

a These figures are or include projections and are subject to revision as information becomes available.
b One third of the appropriate calendar quarter's estimate. Monthly figures of invisibles are not available.

Table 1 Visible trade on balance of payments basis

Seasonally adjusted values — £ million

		Exports (fob)	Imports (fob)	Visible balance
1975		19 379	22 574	−3 195
1976 r		25 285	28 859	−3 574
1975	1st qtr	4 644	5 591	−947
	2nd qtr	4 611	5 266	−655
	3rd qtr	4 808	5 775	−967
	4th qtr	5 316	5 942	−626
1976	1st qtr r	5 609	6 143	−534
	2nd qtr r	6 207	7 122	−915
	3rd qtr r	6 398	7 541	−1 143
	4th qtr r	7 071	8 053	−982
1977	1st qtr	7 415	8 383	−968
	2nd qtr r	8 011	8 721	−710
1977	February	2 437	2 625	−188
	March	2 499	2 741	−242
	April r	2 630	2 774	−144
	May r	2 605	2 870	−265
	June r	2 776	3 077	−301
	July p	2 714	2 970	−256
1977	Feb-Apr	7 567	8 140	−573
	May-Jul	8 094	8 917	−823
Percentage change*		+7	+9½	

p Provisional estimates. r Revised estimates.
* Percentage change: latest three months on previous three months.

In July 1977 the current account is estimated to have been in deficit by £36 million. The deficit on trade in goods was £256 million, seasonally adjusted, and the balance on services and other transactions is estimated to have been running at a monthly surplus of about £220 million.

In the three months ended July 1977 there was a current account deficit of £163 million compared with a surplus of £74 million in the previous three months.

Visible trade

Summary (figures on a balance of payments basis) (see tables 1 and 3)
In July, there was a deficit on visible trade of £256 million, seasonally adjusted, £45 million less than in June. Imports fell by £107 million in July from the high June level, which included arrivals of North Sea oil and gas production installations valued at around £250 million. Exports fell by £62 million, also from a high June level.

In terms of volume, exports were little changed in July, while imports fell by 1½ per cent. The arrival of North Sea installations in June masked a rise of 5½ per cent in the volume of other imports between the two months. The export unit value index rose marginally in July, and the import unit value index increased a little faster. The terms of trade index fell slightly.

In the three months ended July, the visible trade deficit was £823 million, compared with £573 million in the previous three months. The deterioration was rather more than accounted for by the movements in certain erratic elements of trade, particularly, the arrival of the North Sea installations in June. Also, erratic movements in the monthly figures led to the balance of trade in oil being unchanged between the three-month periods. Total exports were valued at £8,094 million, 7 per cent higher than in the previous three months, with volume up by 4½ per cent. Total imports, at £8,917 million, showed an increase of 9½ per cent in value and 7½ per cent in volume. Excluding North Sea installations, imports were up by 7 per cent in value and 5 per cent in volume. Between the two periods, the export unit value index increased by 2½ per cent and the import unit value index by 2 per cent, leading to a slight rise in the terms of trade index.

Table 2 Invisibles¶

Seasonally adjusted values — £ million

		Credits	Debits	Invisible balance
1975		11 076	9 531	+1 545
1976		13 703	11 587	+2 116
1975	1st qtr	2 658	2 252	+406
	2nd qtr	2 712	2 366	+346
	3rd qtr	2 786	2 398	+388
	4th qtr	2 920	2 515	+405
1976	1st qtr	3 060	2 643	+417
	2nd qtr	3 279	2 761	+518
	3rd qtr	3 594	2 989	+605
	4th qtr	3 770	3 194	+576
1977	1st qtr	3 802	3 161	+641
	April			+220*
	May			+220*
	June			+220*
	July			+220*

¶ See note 6.
* These figures are projections and are subject to revision as the relevant statistical information becomes available.

Exports (Overseas Trade Statistics basis)
The quarterly comparisons for some of the component series are affected by the inclusion in the July export figures, on an overseas trade statistics basis, of North Sea oil production installations valued at around £150 million, which are excluded from the figures on a balance of payments basis (see note 11). Where appropriate, the percentage movements of exports other than North Sea installations are given in brackets so that the area and commodity analyses can more readily be considered in relation to the movements of total exports on a balance of payments basis.

Area analysis (see table 4). In the three months ended July 1977, the value of exports to the developed countries, in aggregate, was 11 per cent (8½ per cent) higher than in the previous three months. Deliveries to the EEC, although falling in July after strong increases in each of the four preceding months, increased by 9½ per cent between the two periods. The value of goods despatched to the rest of western Europe was up by 25 per cent (14 per cent) in the latest three months. Exports to North America were 3½ per cent higher, but shipments to the other developed countries decreased by 1½ per cent. The value of goods despatched to the developing countries as a whole increased by 6½ per cent over this period: those to the oil exporting countries were 4½ per cent higher, while exports to the other developing countries rose by 9 per cent. Exports to the centrally planned economies rose by 23 per cent.

Commodity analysis (see tables 5, 6 and 7). The value of exports of manufactured goods was 10 per cent (7½ per cent) higher in the three months ended July 1977 than in the previous three months. Within this broad commodity group, exports of machinery and transport equipment rose in value by 14 per cent (8½ per cent). Exports of machinery (the group which includes North Sea installations) were up by 17 per cent (9½ per cent) in value and 14 per cent (8½ per cent) in volume in the latest three months. By value, exports of road motor vehicles rose by 6½ per cent in this period, while there was a sharp increase of 34 per cent in other transport equipment despatched. Taken together, the volume of transport equipment exports in total was 8 per cent higher in the latest three months than in the three months to April. Chemical exports increased by 10 per cent in value and 7½ per cent in volume over this period, while the 4 per cent rise in the value of deliveries of metals wholly reflected a volume increase. Textile exports rose 1 per cent in value, but volume fell by 2½ per cent. The value of other manufactured goods exported rose by 8 per cent. Exports of non-manufactured goods, in total, rose by 9½ per cent in value in the latest three months. Shipments of food, beverages and tobacco increased by 16 per cent with volume and price contributing equally.

Deliveries of basic materials fell in value by 10 per cent over this period, with a similar drop in volume. Fuel exports increased in value by 13 per cent, mainly reflecting the increases in shipments of crude oil, valued at £240 million in the latest three months.

Imports (Overseas Trade Statistics basis)

Commodity analysis (see tables 8, 10 and 11). In the three months ended July, the value of imports of food, beverages and tobacco rose by 4½ per cent compared with the three months February to April, entirely due to higher prices, particularly for coffee, tea and sugar. Fuel imports increased by 6½ per cent in value from the erratically low February-April level. Imports of industrial materials in total were 8½ per cent up in value, with a 6½ per cent rise in volume the major factor. Within the group, despite a relatively large increase in July, the value of imports of basic materials was unchanged on the three months comparison; volume fell slightly. Imports of chemicals rose by 3 per cent in value, with small increases in both volume and price. In contrast, imports of other semi-manufactures rose 15 per cent in value and 11 per cent in volume, mainly reflecting substantially increased arrivals of previous stones. Imports of finished manufactures in aggregate were up by 19 per cent in value and 15 per cent in volume between the three month periods (7 per cent and 7½ per cent, respectively, excluding North Sea installations). Within this category, imports of machinery (the group which includes North Sea installations) rose by 27 per cent in value and 18 per cent in volume (2½ per cent and 3½ per cent, respectively, excluding such installations). The value of imports of road motor vehicles rose by 7½ per cent and there was an 82 per cent increase in other transport equipment, the result of a high level of imports of aircraft in the last three months. For these two groups combined import volume was up by 29 per cent. Arrivals of other finished manufactures rose by 4 per cent in value, with volume and price contributing about equally.

Area analysis (see table 9). In the three months ended July 1977, the value of imports from the developed countries rose by 12 per cent

Table 3 Export and import unit value and volume index numbers on a balance of payments basis

Indices 1970 = 100

	Unit values (Not seasonally adjusted)			Volume (Seasonally adjusted)	
	Exports	Imports	Terms of trade†	Exports	Imports
1975	198.5	245.0	81.0	125.6	126.4
1976	240.6	299.4	80.4	135.9	134.2
1975 1st quarter	184.9	239.8	77.1	128.8	127.9
2nd quarter	193.4	240.4	80.4	122.6	122.0
3rd quarter	202.2	246.4	82.1	121.3	128.3
4th quarter	210.1	259.7	80.9	129.6	127.4
1976 1st quarter	219.0	268.3	81.6	131.5	126.1
2nd quarter	234.2	291.7	80.3	137.1	134.6
3rd quarter	247.4	307.3	80.5	134.2	137.9
4th quarter	261.7	330.0	79.3	140.8	138.1
1977 1st quarter	274.5	340.7	80.6	140.7	142.4
2nd quarter r	280.9	350.0	80.3	148.8	144.0
1977 February	273.9	340.1	80.5	138.3	133.8
March	276.8	345.2	80.2	142.9	139.4
April	277.4	348.7	79.6	148.8	138.6
May	282.5	349.4	80.9	145.0	142.2
June r	282.8	351.9	80.4	152.5	151.3
July p	283.9	354.3	80.1	152.1	149.0
1977 February-April	276.0	344.7	80.1	143.3	137.3
May-July	283.1	351.9	80.5	149.9	147.5
Percentage change	+2½	+2	+½	+4½	+7½

† Export unit value index as a percentage of the import unit value index.
p Provisional estimates. r Revised estimates.

Table 4 Exports: areas¶ Overseas Trade Statistics basis

Seasonally adjusted values — £ million fob

		Developed countries				Developing countries		
	Total	EEC	Rest of W. Europe	North America	Other	Oil exporting countries	Other	Centrally planned economies
1976 r	25 769	9 168	4 272	3 097	1 944	3 147	3 360	726
1976 3rd quarter r	6 498	2 340	1 061	797	490	786	836	182
4th quarter r	7 225	2 627	1 246	837	481	912	909	186
1977 1st quarter	7 562	2 763	1 297	886	537	997	887	201
2nd quarter r	8 307	3 048	1 451	947	513	1 061	1 009	241
1977 May r	2 700	1 017	497	289	174	350	317	92
June r	2 878	1 063	499	344	165	363	342	76
July p	2 920	998	594	324	177	364	367	89
1977 February-April	7 758	2 807	1 268	926	522	1 030	943	208
May-July	8 498	3 077	1 591	957	515	1 077	1026	257
Percentage change	+9½	+9½	+25	+3½	−1½	+4½	+9	+23

¶ See note 2. r Revised estimates. p Provisional estimates.

Table 5 Exports: commodity classes¶ Overseas Trade Statistics basis

Seasonally adjusted values — £ million fob

					Manufactures									
						Machinery and transport equipment†								
	Total	Food, beverages and tobacco	Basic materials	Fuels	Total	Total	Machinery†	Road motor vehicles	Other transport equipment*	Chemicals	Metals and miscellaneous metal manufactures	Textiles	Other manufactures	Miscellaneous
1976 r	25 769	1 692	776	1 255	21 338	10 125	7 060	2 226	839	3 045	2 345	934	4 889	709
1976 3rd quarter r	6 498	418	197	334	5 411	2 530	1 753	562	200	783	635	240	1 203	179
4th quarter r	7 225	472	232	397	5 910	2 734	1 910	601	246	860	653	267	1 396	183
1977 1st quarter	7 562	504	251	480	6 169	2 764	1 951	623	203	899	684	287	1 527	193
2nd quarter r	8 307	538	227	542	6 727	3 043	2 071	666	285	953	756	284	1 751	222
1977 May r	2 700	184	69	155	2 228	1 019	685	234	123	311	243	90	595	55
June r	2 878	196	77	219	2 294	1 028	711	222	84	330	258	99	570	75
July p	2 920	185	77	183	2 437	1 194	895	228	80	366	241	99	536	54
1977 February-April	7 758	488	248	494	6 321	2 846	1 958	644	215	917	711	286	1 577	224
May-July	8 498	566	223	557	6 960	3 241	2 290	684	287	1 007	741	288	1 700	184
Percentage change	+9½	+16	−10	+13	+10	+14	+17	+6½	+34	+10	+4	+1	+8	−18

* Not seasonally adjusted. ¶ See note 2. r Revised estimates. p Provisional estimates. † includes North Sea production installations.

compared with the previous three months (7 per cent excluding North Sea installations). Deliveries from the EEC, having declined in June, rose sharply in July and in the latest three months imports were up 8 per cent. Imports from the rest of western Europe increased by 28 per cent (7 per cent excluding North Sea installations). Arrivals from North America rose by 11 per cent mainly reflecting high deliveries of aircraft, while imports from the other developed countries rose by 2½ per cent. Among the developing countries there was a 5 per cent increase in arrivals from the oil exporting countries, while deliveries from the other developing countries rose by 8½ per cent. Imports from the centrally planned economies were 26 per cent higher after the low level in the previous three months.

Table 6 Exports: volume indices Overseas Trade Statistics basis

Seasonally adjusted — Indices 1970 = 100

					Manufactures							
						Machinery and transport equipment†						
	Total	Food, beverages and tobacco	Basic materials	Fuels	Total	Total	Machinery†	Road motor vehicles and other transport equipment	Chemicals	Metals and miscellaneous metal manufactures	Textiles	Other manufactures
Weights	1 000	64	34	26	844	410	276	134	97	119	49	169
1976	139.4	156	122	108	140	133	135	130	171	108	124	168
1976 3rd quarter	137.3	152	118	115	139	130	132	124	171	114	126	161
4th quarter	144.6	161	131	122	144	134	134	136	180	111	130	176
1977 1st quarter	144.3	165	138	134	144	129	131	126	176	118	132	184
2nd quarter r	155.0	164	122	144	154	139	138	137	185	131	129	204
1977 May	150.8	165	111	125	152	139	137	154	179	125	124	205
June p	158.7	176	126	168	156	140	143	130	192	135	132	195
July	161.5	167	128	153	165	156	167	138	208	126	127	199
1977 February-April	147.8	160	134	136	147	132	131	130	179	123	131	191
May-July	157.0	170	122	149	158	145	149	140	193	129	128	200
Percentage change	+6	+6½	−9½	+9½	+7	+10	+14	+8	+7½	+4½	−2½	+5

p Provisional estimates. r Revised estimates. † Includes North Sea production installations.

Table 7 Exports: unit value indices Overseas Trade Statistics basis

Not seasonally adjusted — Indices 1970 = 100

					Manufactures							
						Machinery and transport equipment						
	Total	Food, beverages and tobacco	Basic materials	Fuels	Total	Total	Machinery	Road motor vehicles and other transport equipment	Chemicals	Metals and miscellaneous metal manufactures	Textiles	Other manufactures
1976	240.1	213	240	553	234	245	250	234	238	228	202	221
1976 3rd quarter	247.4	220	249	553	242	254	258	246	245	233	207	226
4th quarter	261.7	229	262	608	256	269	273	260	259	247	222	239
1977 1st quarter	274.4	238	276	643	268	284	288	275	272	255	235	249
2nd quarter r	280.7	252	285	666	274	288	288	288	280	258	244	256
1977 May	282.3	251	285	679	275	289	288	290	282	261	244	258
June r	282.6	258	283	681	275	289	289	290	279	255	251	260
July p	283.9	264	279	670	277	293	292	294	283	249	254	259
1977 February-April	275.9	242	281	646	270	284	288	276	275	257	238	250
May-July	282.9	258	282	677	276	290	290	292	281	255	249	259
Percentage change	+2½	+6½	+½	+5	+2½	+2	+½	+5½	+2½	−½	+5	+4

p Provisional estimates. r Revised estimates

Table 8 Imports: commodity classes¶ Overseas Trade Statistics basis

Seasonally adjusted values — £ million cif

				Industrial materials				Finished manufactures						
									Machinery and transport equipment†					
	Total	Food, beverages and tobacco	Fuels	Total	Basic materials	Chemicals	Other semi-manufactures	Total	Total	Machinery†	Road motor vehicles	Other transport equipment*	Other	Miscellaneous
1976 r	31 155	4 983	5 645	11 262	3 218	1 999	6 045	8 853	6 386	4 637	1 398	351	2 467	411
1976 3rd quarter r	8 095	1 264	1 492	2 895	855	515	1 525	2 342	1 715	1 255	392	64	627	107
* 4th quarter r	8 727	1 404	1 510	3 230	927	568	1 735	2 541	1 830	1 293	416	95	711	92
1977 1st quarter	8 954	1 490	1 390	3 376	988	629	1 758	2 666	1 897	1 289	474	124	769	105
2nd quarter r	9 574	1 568	1 349	3 496	864	621	2 011	2 948	2 213	1 605	485	162	735	119
1977 May r	3 145	534	486	1 159	294	197	668	878	635	438	166	50	243	39
June r	3 409	518	441	1 179	289	217	673	1 224	970	732	159	85	253	43
July p	3 185	524	415	1 228	323	220	685	977	718	468	187	69	259	47
1977 February-April	8 748	1 504	1 260	3 287	905	613	1 769	2 580	1 854	1 289	478	112	726	106
May-July	9 739	1 576	1 342	3 565	906	633	2 026	3 078	2 323	1 638	513	204	755	129
Percentage change	+11	+4½	+6½	+8½	—	+3	15	+19	+25	+27	+7½	+82	+4	+21

* Not seasonally adjusted. ¶ See note 2. r Revised estimates. p Provisional estimates. † Includes North Sea production installations.

Invisibles (see table 2)

The latest estimate of invisibles relates to the first quarter of 1977 when credits on services and other transactions were £3,802 million and debits £3,161 million, giving a surplus of £641 million for the quarter. The surplus is projected to be running currently at £220 million a month.

Notes

1 Trade figures on a balance of payments basis. The seasonally adjusted import and export figures on a balance of payments basis are obtained by making various adjustments to the seasonally adjusted figures derived from those recorded in the monthly *Overseas Trade Statistics*. These adjustments are summarised in table 13. Some are valuation adjustments; the principal of these is the deduction from the import figure of freight and insurance costs. The other adjustments relate to coverage. Included under this heading are adjustments to bring in items not in the Trade Statistics (for example on the import side ships built and delivered abroad direct to UK owners) and to remove items which are in the Trade Statistics (mainly returned goods and goods for processing and repair), where no change of ownership is involved. In addition adjustments are made from time to time to the level of exports to take account of variations in the quality of recording as revealed by the regular monitoring of the accuracy of the export figures (as described in an article in *Trade and Industry*, 15 February 1973). All these adjustments are described in greater detail in the annual *'Pink Book' United Kingdom Balance of Payments 1965-75* (table 4 and pages 59-62) and in an article in the issue of *Trade and Industry*, 4 November 1970.

Since firm figures for the adjustments do not become available as quickly as the recorded trade statistics, the figures for imports and exports on a balance of payments basis in the latest months are at this stage preliminary estimates and liable to revision.

2 The adjustments described at note 1 are made only for the monthly totals of exports and imports (table 1) and the monthly figures of trade in petroleum and petroleum products (table 12). They are not estimated for the area and other commodity analyses of trade. The values of total trade and the main com-

Table 9 Imports: areas¶ Overseas Trade Statistics basis

Seasonally adjusted values — £ million cif

		Developed countries				Developing countries		
	Total	EEC	Rest of W. Europe	North America	Other	Oil exporting countries	Other	Centrally planned economies
1976 r	31 155	11 385	4 577	4 217	2 116	4 207	3 511	1 109
1976 3rd quarter r	8 095	2 825	1 229	1 122	576	1 178	911	268
4th quarter r	8 727	3 242	1 281	1 191	616	1 134	968	276
1977 1st quarter	8 954	3 343	1 287	1 268	635	1 027	1 123	325
2nd quarter r	9 574	3 501	1 648	1 293	713	974	1 060	333
1977 May r	3 145	1 208	470	405	221	347	382	113
June r	3 409	1 137	724	491	240	328	349	121
July p	3 185	1 244	413	474	236	303	403	128
1977 February-April	8 748	3 330	1 251	1 230	680	934	1 046	288
May-July	9 739	3 589	1 607	1 370	698	979	1 134	362
Percentage change	+11	+8	+28	+11	+2½	+5	+8½	+26

¶ See note 2. p Provisional estimates. r Revised estimates.

Table 10 Imports: volume indices Overseas Trade Statistics basis

Seasonally adjusted — Indices 1970 = 100

				Industrial materials				Finished manufactures				
									Machinery and transport equipment†			
	Total	Food, beverages and tobacco	Fuels	Total	Basic materials	Chemicals	Other semi-manufactures	Total	Total	Machinery†	Road motor vehicles and other transport equipment	Other
Weights	1 000	227	105	427	151	60	216	229	166	133	33	63
1976	133.5	101	87	127	93	150	145	196	197	186	241	193
1976 3rd quarter	135.8	103	88	127	95	153	142	202	206	194	251	193
4th quarter	137.8	104	85	132	94	157	151	206	210	196	247	197
1977 1st quarter	139.6	107	76	135	97	170	152	213	213	194	283	215
2nd quarter r	145.2	107	73	135	84	166	162	226	234	219	320	203
1977 May	143.2	109	79	134	85	158	161	212	216	199	320	200
June r	153.3	103	73	137	85	169	164	267	288	267	385	211
July p	146.2	101	71	143	93	173	169	225	233	205	362	204
1977 February-April	135.5	106	67	129	88	166	148	203	204	189	276	202
May-July	147.6	104	74	138	88	167	165	235	246	224	356	205
Percentage change	+9	−2	+10	+6½	−1	+½	+11	+15	+21	+18	+29	+1½

p Provisional estimates. r Revised estimates. † Includes North Sea production installations.

Table 11 Imports: unit value indices Overseas Trade Statistics basis

Not seasonally adjusted — Indices 1970 = 100

				Industrial materials				Finished manufactures				
									Machinery and transport equipment			
	Total	Food, beverages and tobacco	Fuels	Total	Basic materials	Chemicals	Other semi-manufactures	Total	Total	Machinery	Road motor vehicles and other transport equipment	Other
1976	288.6	247	704	239	260	267	217	237	232	227	253	249
1976 3rd quarter	296.4	246	728	247	266	274	226	246	242	237	262	258
4th quarter	318.9	268	768	268	295	296	240	265	258	251	287	284
1977 1st quarter	327.6	280	790	277	310	302	248	264	258	248	297	280
2nd quarter r	336.8	297	801	284	313	304	258	269	262	252	302	286
1977 May	336.4	297	803	284	314	304	257	266	259	249	302	285
June r	338.6	304	799	283	314	305	256	272	267	258	302	285
July p	340.9	311	802	284	317	300	257	272	266	255	309	289
1977 February-April	331.5	284	798	281	312	302	253	266	259	249	298	283
May-July	338.6	304	801	284	315	303	257	270	264	254	304	287
Percentage change	+2	+7	+½	+1	+1	+½	+1½	+1½	+2	+2	+2	+1

p Provisional estimates. r Revised estimates.

ponents of exports and imports in table 4 to 11 are available only on the *Overseas Trade Statistics* basis. Whereas comment on total trade and trade in petroleum and petroleum products relates to figures for exports and imports on a balance of payments basis, analyses of the area and other commodity patterns of trade are based on the figures on the *Overseas Trade Statistics* basis in tables 4 to 11. The main components of trade are seasonally adjusted independently from the totals and in consequence do not always add exactly to the seasonally adjusted totals.

3 Visible balance. The visible balance is the difference between the import and export figures on a balance of payments basis obtained as described in note 1 above. Since, as noted above, the import and export figures for the most recent months are provisional, it follows that the monthly visible balances for these months are also provisional and liable to revision.

The monthly figures for the visible balance are published only on a seasonally adjusted basis. Since the balance is the difference of two large and variable figures, it is itself liable to fluctuation and undue significance should not be attached to a single month's figure; it is more useful to consider the total balance over three or more months.

4 Trends. Even after allowing for seasonal influences, the sequence of monthly figures is usually too variable to give a satisfactory indication of the underlying trend. While it is possible to construct elaborate estimates of trend these cannot be applied to the most recent months, and a simple method of giving some guidance on underlying movements in the most recent past is to take the sum of three months. Apart from occasions when major disturbances distort the flows of trade, the three-monthly total gives a quite good short-term guide and has the merit of simplicity.

5 Timing. The figures for exports relate to documents received in the Statistical Office of HM Customs and Excise up to a few days before the end of the calendar month. On average export documents arrive at Customs Statistical Office within a fortnight of the shipment of goods, so that the documents relate to goods passing through the ports in the month ending about the middle of the calendar month to which they are attributed. The figures for imports relate to documents received at the Customs Statistical Office up to the third working day after the end of the month. Importers are usually required to present their documents before they can obtain customs clearance and remove the goods. Thus the import statistics correspond closely to movements through the ports during the calendar month to which they are attributed.

Table 12 Trade in petroleum and petroleum products¶
Balance of payments basis (division 33 of SITC(R))

Seasonally adjusted

	Balance of visible trade	Imports					Exports		
		Total	Crude oil			Rest of Division 33	Total	Crude oil ⌀	Rest of Division 33
	£ million fob	£ million fob	£ million fob	Million tons	Average value ton £ fob	£ million fob	£ million fob	£ million fob	£ million fob
1975	−3 106	3 827	3 069	85.6	35.9	758	721	30	691
1976 r	−3 960	5 121	4 089	85.6	47.8	1 032	1 161	177	984
1975 1st qtr	−774	948	758	22.2	34.3	190	174	7	167
2nd qtr	−683	841	697	20.7	33.8	144	158	1	157
3rd qtr	−784	976	800	22.4	35.6	176	192	6	186
4th qtr	−865	1 062	814	20.3	40.2	248	197	16	181
1976 1st qtr r	−960	1 178	928	21.4	43.4	250	218	18	200
2nd qtr r	−957	1 217	955	20.5	46.5	262	260	24	236
3rd qtr r	−1 041	1 354	1 079	21.8	49.6	275	313	45	268
4th qtr r	−1 002	1 372	1 127	21.9	51.9	245	370	90	280
1977 1st qtr	−816	1 268	1 011	18.8	53.8	257	452	163	289
2nd qtr r	−718	1 229	967	17.6	54.9	262	511	239	272
1977 February	−208	355	285	5.3	53.6	70	147	48	99
March	−252	411	336	6.1	55.2	75	159	70	89
April r	−227	385	299	5.5	54.8	86	158	76	82
May r	−298	444	355	6.4	55.1	89	146	54	92
June r	−193	400	313	5.7	54.6	87	207	109	98
July p	−198	373	284	5.2	54.9	89	175	77	98
1977 February-April	−687	1 151	920	16.9	54.6	231	464	194	270
May-July	−689	1 217	952	17.3	54.9	265	528	240	288
Percentage change		+5½	+3½	+3	+½	+15	+14	+24	+6½

p Provisional estimates. r Revised estimates. ¶ See note 7. ⌀ Not seasonally adjusted.

Table 13 Derivation of the visible trade figures Balance of payments basis

£ million

	Exports				Imports				
	Recorded	Seasonally adjusted†			Recorded	Seasonally adjusted†			
	Overseas Trade Statistics basis (fob)	Overseas Trade Statistics basis (fob)	Coverage adjustments	Balance of payments basis (fob)	Overseas Trade Statistics basis (cif)	Overseas Trade Statistics basis (cif)	Adjustments to BOP basis: Valuation adjustments	Adjustments to BOP basis: Coverage adjustments	Balance of payments basis (fob)
1975	19 922	19 922	−543	19 379	24 128	24 128	−1 580	+26	22 574
1976 r	25 769	25 769	−484	25 285	31 155	31 155	−1 974	−322	28 859
1975 1st quarter	4 593	4 748	−104	4 644	5 883	5 950	−370	+11	5 591
2nd quarter	4 942	4 722	−111	4 611	5 832	5 573	−375	+68	5 266
3rd quarter	4 796	4 962	−154	4 808	5 998	6 190	−417	+2	5 775
4th quarter	5 591	5 490	−174	5 316	6 415	6 415	−418	−55	5 942
1976 1st quarter r	5 816	5 738	−129	5 609	6 808	6 669	−429	−97	6 143
2nd quarter r	6 391	6 308	−101	6 207	7 762	7 664	−494	−48	7 122
3rd quarter r	6 258	6 498	−100	6 398	7 790	8 095	−517	−37	7 541
4th quarter r	7 304	7 225	−154	7 071	8 795	8 727	−534	−140	8 053
1977 1st quarter	7 674	7 562	−147	7 415	9 089	8 954	−549	−22	8 383
2nd quarter r	8 362	8 307	−296	8 011	9 670	9 574	−569	−284	8 721
1977 February	2 390	2 506	−69	2 437	2 740	2 853	−172	−56	2 625
March	2 940	2 522	−23	2 499	3 338	2 875	−180	+46	2 741
April r	2 571	2 729	−99	2 630	2 937	3 020	−179	−67	2 774
May r	2 954	2 700	−95	2 605	3 318	3 145	−193	−82	2 870
June r	2 837	2 878	−102	2 776	3 415	3 409	−197	−135	3 077
July p	2 863	2 920	−206	2 714	3 078	3 185	−192	−23	2 970
1977 February-April	7 901	7 758	−191	7 567	9 015	8 748	−531	−77	8 140
May-July	8 654	8 498	−404	8 094	9 811	9 739	−582	−240	8 917
Percentage change	+9½	+9½		+7	+9	+11			+9½

† Components and totals are rounded independently. p Provisional estimates. r Revised estimates.

6 Invisibles (services and other current transactions) covers the following items: Government services and transfer payments; all other services including sea and air transport, travel and insurance, banking and other financial transactions; overseas income in the form of interest, profits and dividends; and private transfers. The monthly figures are inevitably less precise than those for visible trade for several reasons; the data are not available on a monthly basis (some are reported quarterly, others less frequently) and the figures are, therefore, essentially projections based on past trends; revisions, affecting particularly gross credits and debits, but often the balance as well, are more frequent; and the gross figures themselves include a number of items which are appropriately recorded as the net profit or surplus arising on the transactions.

7 Trade in petroleum and petroleum products. Trade in petroleum and petroleum products (table 12) accounts for almost all the trade in fuels, section 3 of SITC(R) which is included in tables 5 and 8. Import and export figures are shown for crude oil and for the rest of the division which includes petroleum partly refined for further refining and petroleum products (eg motor spirit, lamp oil and white spirit, distillate fuels, residual fuel oils, lubricating oils and greases, etc).

The figures of value and tonnage of crude oil imports in table 12 are based on reports to HM Customs and Excise and have been seasonally adjusted with the same seasonal and length of month factors as have been used for the fuels total in table 8. These figures cannot be directly compared with the monthly import tonnages originating from the Department of Energy which are published in the *Monthly Digest of Statistics* and the *Digest of Energy Statistics*, as the latter are based on reports received directly from the oil industry and are unadjusted. Over longer periods the differences between the two sources are largely resolved.

For imports, the average value of crude oil per ton has been obtained by dividing the value of crude oil imports by the tonnage and will reflect not only changes in price but also changes in the commodity mix of imports due, for example, to differing qualities of crude oil.

The figures of value of crude oil exports are now given without seasonal adjustment. In previous months they were presented on a seasonally adjusted basis, using the same seasonal and length of month factors as have been used for the fuels total. Further consideration has shown however that these factors may not be wholly appropriate. The export figures include oil which has been re-exported.

8 Unit value and volume indices. A brief description of the way in which the index numbers on a balance of payments basis are calculated was published in the article giving unit value and volume index numbers for March 1971 in *Trade and Industry*, 26 May 1971. An article was published in *Trade and Industry* on 11 October 1973 introducing the series of import and export unit value and volume indices with 1970 = 100. The purpose of the index numbers is to measure the changes in price and volume of our imports and exports. Index numbers can be constructed in various ways, and the series used here are of the fixed base type. Thus, the unit value indices measure changes in 'price' of a fixed selection of trade headings (although in practice it is not specific prices which are measured but the average price of all the varying transactions taking place each month in the selected headings, reflecting different kinds of goods covered by each heading and different markets or sources of supply).

Correspondingly, the volume indices measure, for the same selection of trade headings, what the change in the value of trade would be assuming no changes in the prices charged from those in the base year. Because the indices are base weighted, they do not take account of the changes in the pattern of trade since the base year, and consequently their product does not precisely account for the change in the value of trade expressed as an index. In practice, though, since the composition of trade changes little between consecutive months, the product of the changes in the indices will often approximate to the change in the value of trade between one month and the next. A full methodological article about the 1970-based series of indices was published in the April 1975 issue of *Economic Trends*. Adjustments have been made to the import volume index to include North Sea oil production installations, however no changes have been made to the base-weighted unit value index.

9 Definition of areas. The areas used in tables 4 and 9 comprise the following countries:
EEC: West Germany, Netherlands, Belgium, Luxembourg, France, Italy, Denmark and Irish Republic.
Rest of Western Europe: Finland, Sweden, Norway, Iceland, Switzerland, Liechtenstein, Portugal, Austria, Andorra, Vatican City, Greece, Turkey, Yugoslavia, Spain, Faroe Islands, Gibraltar, Malta, Continental Shelf (Foreign Part).
North America: USA, Canada, Puerto Rico, Greenland, St Pierre and Miquelon.
Other developed countries: Australia, New Zealand, Japan and South Africa.
Centrally planned economies: Soviet Union, Poland, East Germany, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Albania, Bulgaria, Romania, China, North Korea, Outer Mongolia and Vietnam.
Oil exporting countries: Abu Dhabi, Algeria, Bahrain, Brunei, Dubai, Ecuador, Gabon, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Libya, Nigeria, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sharjah, etc, Trinidad and Tobago, and Venezuela.
Other developing countries: All other countries.

10 Seasonally adjusted import figures for December and January. Because of difficulties of allowing fully in the seasonal adjustment procedure for the effects of the 1976/77 Christmas/new year holiday period, the seasonally adjusted imports figures for December are probably understated and those for January correspondingly overstated. Exports are probably little affected.

11 Treatment of oil platforms in July exports figures. The July exports figures on an overseas trade statistics basis include two oil platforms, valued at around £150 million, which have been moved to Norway for completion, and which should be returning to the UK continental shelf next year. For a number of reasons, principally that no effective change of ownership has taken place, they have been excluded from the July figures on a balance of payments basis. When the platforms return to the UK only the additional value added to them will be included in the balance of payments figures; the £150 million will be netted out.

12 Revisions. Some small revisions have been made to the exports and imports figures for 1976 in the light of recent information published by Customs and Excise in *Overseas Trade Statistics of the United Kingdom, 1976.*

Overseas Trade Statistics
Detailed particulars of United Kingdom imports for July with cumulative totals will be published on 25 August* and further analysis of the figures will be found in tables 14.1 to 14.19 in the *Monthly Digest* for August†, due to be published in the second week of September.

Inquiries: 01-215 3131 (value data), 01-215 3466 (indices).

* *Overseas Trade Statistics of the United Kingdom*, HMSO, £6.50 (annual subscription £93.60).
† *Monthly Digest of Statistics*, HMSO, £1.95 (annual subscription including supplement of definitions and postage, £27.86).

Index of retail prices

The index of retail prices for all items for 12 July 1977 was 183.8 (15 January 1974 = 100). This represents an increase of 0.1 per cent on June 1977 (183.6) and of 17.6 per cent on July 1976 (156.3).

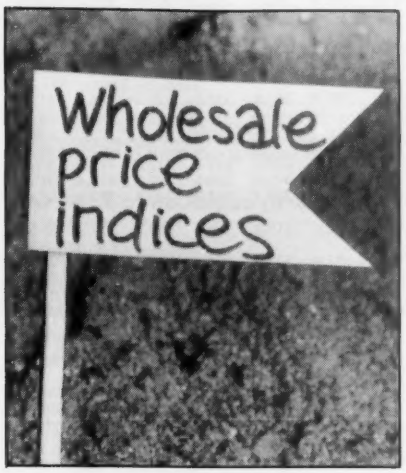
The rise in the index in July was due mainly to increases in the prices of many foods, particulary fresh fruit, tea, coffee, and eggs; to increases in the prices of cars, clothing, and other goods; and to increases in average charges for gas and electricity, and for canteen and restaurant meals. These increases were largely offset by lower prices for potatoes and other fresh vegetables; by a fall in petrol prices; and by reductions in the level of mortgage interest payments and in telephone charges.

Inquiries: Watford 28500 ext. 630.

Index of retail prices

	All items				All items except seasonal foods		
	Index 15 January 1974 = 100	Percentage change over 1 month	6 months	12 months	Index 15 January 1974 = 100	Percentage change over 1 month	6 months
1977							
March	175.8	+1.0	+9.5	+16.7	174.3	+1.0	+8.9
April	180.3	+2.6	+10.3	+17.5	178.7	+2.5	+9.8
May	181.7	+0.8	+9.6	+17.1	180.5	+1.0	+9.5
June	183.6	+1.0	+9.3	+17.7	182.4	+1.1	+9.4
July	183.8	+0.1	+6.6	+17.6	183.5	+0.6	+7.4

Wholesale price indices in July



Output prices

The provisional price index for the home sales of manufactured products increased by 1¼ per cent in July to 265.8 (1970 = 100).

The index of manufactured products other than food, drink and tobacco was 1¼ per cent higher, as a result of increases spread across all sectors. This index rose 3½ per cent in the latest three months compared with 4 per cent in the previous three months.

Widespread increases for a number of products were responsible for the 1¾ per cent rise in the index for chemicals and allied industries in July. The index for the bricks, cement etc industries also rose by 1¾ per cent, with higher prices for pre-cast concrete products accounting for about a third of the increase.

The 1½ per cent increase in the index for the mechanical engineering sector reflected price increases for a wide range of goods. The other engineering sectors showed smaller increases of 1 per cent.

The index for the vehicles industry rose by ¾ per cent. The full effect of price increases for cars at the end of July will be reflected in the index for August. Higher prices for bolts, nuts, screws etc made the most significant contribution to the increase of 1¼ per cent in the index for metal goods. The increase of 1 per cent in the index for the steel industries was mainly due to price rises for steel tubes and heavy bars and sections.

Manufactured stationery accounted for about a half of the ¾ per cent increase in the paper industries index, whilst glass products accounted for the ¼ per cent increase in the index for pottery and glass industries. Higher prices for building joinery and domestic furniture were responsible for the ½ per cent increase in the timber industries index.

The highest sector increase in July was the 2¼ per cent rise in the index for the food manufacturing industries. Coffee accounted for about a half of the rise, and bread, cakes and chocolate confectionery also made significant contributions. This index increased by 6¾ per cent in the three months to July compared with 4¾ per cent in the three months to April.

When measured over a 12 month period the increase in the index for all manufactured products was 21 per cent for the third successive month.

Input prices

The provisional price index for materials and fuel purchased by manufacturing industry increased by ¼ per cent in July to 345.8.

The increase of ¾ per cent in the index for materials purchased by manufacturing industry other than the food, drink and tobacco industries was the result of the rise in crude oil prices agreed at the Opec conference at Stockholm. Lower prices for a number of imported materials, particularly copper, offset the price increases for aluminium and tin.

Higher prices for a number of materials were responsible for the 1¼ per cent increase in the index for materials and fuel purchased by the clothing and footwear industries.

The index for the steel industries rose by ½ per cent with higher prices for pig iron and tin, in particular, more than offsetting the effect of further price reductions for heavy steel scrap.

Heavy steel bars and sections made the most significant contribution to the ¾ per cent increases in the indices of materials and fuels purchased by the bricks, cement etc industries and the mechanical engineering industries.

The index for the non-ferrous metals sector increased by ¼ per cent, with higher prices for aluminium and tin partially offset by lower prices for copper and, to a lesser extent, bismuth. The lower copper prices also limited the increase in the electrical engineering index to ½ per cent.

Further falls in cotton and, to a lesser extent, wool prices were not quite offset by the effects of higher prices for a wide range of materials in the textile industries index. The paper industries index was unchanged despite a modest fall in woodpulp prices.

The index for chemicals and allied industries fell by ¼ per cent, with significant price reductions for palm oil, vegetable and animal oils and fats, while there were also significant price increases for crude oil and imported chemicals.

Lower prices for a range of imported materials were again responsible for the fall of 1¼ per cent in the index for materials purchased by the food manufacturing industries. The most significant price reductions were for oils and oilseed products, tea, coffee, cocoa butter and wheat. These lower prices more than offset the effect of higher prices for sugar, cocoa beans and milk for manufacturing purposes.

More about wholesale price indices

01-215 3544	tables 1 and 2
01-215 3549	engineering
01-215 5216	chemicals, steel, building materials, etc
01-215 3548	textiles, clothing, timber, paper, etc
01-215 3173	imported commodities

Correspondence: Departments of Industry, Trade and Prices and Consumer Protection, Economics and Statistics Division 4, Room 249, Sanctuary Buildings, Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3DB

Notes on wholesale price indices

1 Detailed notes on index numbers of wholesale prices were last shown in *Trade and Industry*, 13 May 1977.

2 The index numbers are constructed on a net sector basis. This is to say, the price movements used to compile the index for a particular sector of industry are only those relating to transactions between the sector and other sectors. Transactions between undertakings in the same sector are excluded. Thus index numbers for the whole of manufacturing industry are not weighted averages of sector index numbers.

3 All the index numbers are compiled exclusive of value added tax and (before its abolition) of purchase tax. Revenue duties (on cigarettes and manufactured tobacco, alcoholic liquor, matches and mechanical lighters) are included. The duty on hydrocarbon oils is excluded from output price series that cover these products (unless specifically noted to the contrary) but is included in series for materials and fuel purchased by sectors of industry.

4 Firm and provisional indices, at all levels of aggregation, include imputation for items for which there is no current price information. Additional provisional figures will be published for those indices where there are insufficient returns to allow accurate imputation.

5 Revisions to firm index numbers will only be made if they are significant. These revisions will be notified when the series are next published.

Table 1 Price index numbers of materials purchased

1970 = 100

1968 SIC		1976			1977		1976		1977						
		2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr	2nd qtr p	Jul	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun p	Jul p
Orders III to XIX	Materials and fuel purchased by manufacturing industry:	292.6	306 8	329.9	341.5	347.8	302.0	330.2	337.8	339.5	347.2	349.7	348.3	345.3	345.8
	Materials †	299.2	314.6	339.7	351.6	356.2	309.3	339.8	347.9	349.7	357.3	358.7	356.7	353.1	353.5
	Coal (except for carbonising), gas and electricity	230.6	232.0	236.3	244.8	267.8	232.0	238.9	241.0	242.6	250.7	264.3	267.9	271.1	272.9
Orders IV to XIX	Materials and fuel purchased by manufacturing industry, other than food, drink and tobacco manufacturing industries	313.5	328.3	348.4	355.8	359.1	324.6	346.3	353.4	354.7	359.4	359.7	360.2	357.3	359.8
	Materials †	325.3	342.0	364.3	371.6	372.1	337.9	361.5	369.4	370.6	374.9	373.3	373.3	369.6	372.2
Order III	Materials and fuel purchased by the food, drink and tobacco manufacturing industries	246.8	257.3	283.1	303.0	320.1	251.4	289.6	297.4	299.9	311.6	321.9	320.0	318.3	315.9
	Materials and fuels purchased by selected broad sectors of industry:														
211 to 229	Food manufacturing industries	246.5	258.2	288.7	309.4	322.9	251.7	294.4	302.3	305.6	320.2	327.6	322.0	319.2	315.1
	Materials	246.5	258.3	289.5	310.3	323.4	251.7	295.1	303.1	306.5	321.4	328.5	322.4	319.4	315.1
	Fuel *	248.0	254.0	268.0	283.7	309.1	251.7	275.4	281.3	282.2	287.7	303.9	310.9	312.4	313.3
211 to 229 (excluding MLH 219)	Food manufacturing industries (excluding animal and poultry foods)	243.3	254.3	284.9	307.1	321.2	247.5	290.6	299.1	302.8	319.4	326.1	319.7	317.7	314.4
Order V	Chemicals and allied industries	276.5	289.8	310.3	319.3	330.4	286.0	312.0	316.6	317.8	323.6	329.4	332.5	329.4	328.8
311 and 312	Steel industries	281.6	291.3	299.5	303.7	320.5	287.3	299.9	301 5	303.3	306.3	319.0	320.8 p	321.8	323.4
321 to 323	Non-ferrous metals industry	189.3	202.0	205.4	222.3	220.0	203.3	205.1	215.5	222.2	229.3	222.2	222.0	215.9	216.3
Order VII (excluding MLH 342)	Mechanical engineering industries	245.1	260.6	274.9	283.7	289.1	257.7	277.3	281.8	283.6	285.7	288.0	289.5	289.8	292.3
Order IX	Electrical engineering industries	218.5	231.4	238.1	249.2	252.3	230.2	239.4	245.1	249.3	253.3	253.1	253.1	250.7	251.7
Order X	Shipbuilding and marine engineering industries	238.5	253.0	266.2	275.9	281.7	249.8	268.6	273.6	276.0	278.2	280.4	282.0	282.6	284.6
Order XII	Metal goods industries	258.3	272.3	291.4	298.2	302.6	269.3	293.3	294.2	297.6	302.8	303.3	303.5	301.1	303.2
Order XIII	Textile industries	255.9	275.1	298.8	298.6	297.1	270.3	298.2	298.6	299.3	297.8	298.7	298.1	294.5	294.2
Order XV	Clothing and footwear industries	209.1	219.1	231.0	240.9	246.9	216.4	232.8	239.0	241.3	242.5	246.1	247.3	247.3	250.3
461, 464 and 469	Bricks, cement, etc, industries	259.0	271.1	282.4	298.3	313.7	267.7	287.2	294.1	297.3	303.5	308.9	314.2	317.9	320.0
462 and 463	Pottery and glass industries	248.5	259.6	274.6	289.4	306.2	256.0	280.2	285.9	288.6	293.7	301.6	306.0	311.1	313.4
Order XVII	Timber industries	259.7	285.9	307.0	319.9	327.4	279.0	312.2	317.6	319.7	322.3	325.8	327.5	328.8	330.4
481 to 484	Paper industries	273.7	286.0	304.7	312.5	317.6	281.8	304.9	310.9	312.1	314.6	316.7	317.9	318.3	318.3
Order XX	Construction materials	242.5	258.2	271.5	284.0	294.0	253.9	274.5	279.5	284.8	287.7	290 3	294.3	297.3	300.2
Part of Order XX	House building materials	244.7	261.6	276.3	288.6	299.8	256.9	279.2	283.5	289.6	292.6	295.5	300.3	303.7	306.8

† Includes crude oil and coal for carbonising.

* Includes petroleum products.

Table 1a Price index numbers of materials and fuel purchased by selected sectors of industry

1970 = 100

1968 SIC		1976			1977		1976		1977						
		2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr	2nd qtr p	Jul	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun p	Jul p
361	Electrical machinery industry	230.9	245.2	256.2	264.2	268.3	242.8	258.0	261.9	264.1	266.7	267.9	268.7	268.2	270.1
362	Insulated wires and cables industry	179.3	191.4	187.0	198.6	197.7	193.4	186.0	193.5	198.4	203.9	201.0	198.1	193.9	193.0
364	Radio and electronic components industry	224.6	237.1	248.4	259.5	266.7	233.9	250.7	255 9	259.4	263.2	265.7	267.1	267.2	269.4
368	Domestic appliances industry	222.3	234.4	246.3	255.0	260.2	231.7	248.5	252.4	254.4	257.2	259.1	260.6	260.8	262.9
369	Electrical goods industries n.e.s.	219.6	231.6	240.9	254.2	259 0	229.5	242.6	249.1	254.3	259.2	259.2	260.5	257.3	258.8
381	Motor vehicle industry	247.4	261.7	276.3	285.2	290.9	257.7	278.5	282.9	285.4	287.3	289.6	291.1	291.9	294.4
411	Man-made fibres industry	248.1	259.0	275.8	277.8	284.7	254.3	276.5	276.3	277.5	279 6	282.7	285.2	286.2	288.5
414	Woollen and worsted industry	282.9	302.2	338.4	333.3	315.9	293.1	336.7	340.4	336.2	323.2	318.4	315.4	313.9	313.2
422/1	Household textiles and handkerchiefs industry	224.2	243.3	257.5	269.3	277.5	238.6	260.0	265.4	268.6	274.0	276.2	278.3	278.0	281.5
450	Footwear industry	214.7	222.9	231.6	239.3	245.6	220.1	232.8	236.2	240.2	241.6	244.7	245.9	246.2	247.4
481	Paper and board making industry	288.5	299.3	318.4	318.1	325.1	295.5	317.8	314.9	318.0	321.5	324.2	325.4	325.6	324.6

Table 2 Price index numbers of output (home sales)

1970 = 100

1968 SIC		1976			1977		1976		1977						
		2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr	2nd qtr p	Jul	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun p	Jul p
Orders III to XIX	Output of manufactured products	214.4	223.2	233.9	248.0	259.2	219.8	237.2	244.9	248.2	250.8	255.4	259.8	262.4	265.8
Orders IV to XIX	Products of manufacturing industry other than food, drink and tobacco manufacturing industries	222.0	230.8	241.2	254.5	264.4	227.5	244.5	251.0	254.9	257.6	261.1	265.2	267.0	270.2
	Output of selected broad sectors of industry														
211 to 229	Food manufacturing industries	222.2	233.8	252.2	267.3	282.9	227.9	255.8	263.9	267.1	270.9	276.4	283.5	288.9	295.1
211 to 229 (excluding MLH 219)	Food manufacturing industries (excluding animal and poultry foods)	220.5	230.2	247.3	262.5	279.1	224.4	250.4	259.3	262.2	266.1	272.0	279.9	285.5	292.9
Order V	Chemicals and allied industries	213.7	221.0	228.8	239.7	248.5	218.4	231.5	237.8	239.5	241.7	246.0	248.5	251.0	255.4
Order VI	Metal manufacturing	240.6	259.1	271.8	283.8	286.4	256.3	273.2	280.5	283.8	287.2	286.9	286.7	285.6	288.1
311 and 312	Steel industries	260.3	281.8	300.2	311.0	313.1	278.4	301.4	309.5	310.8	312.7	313.1	313.0	313.3	316.4
Orders VII to XII	Engineering and allied industries	217.7	226.6	236.3	248.1	258.3	223.2	239.0	244.1	248.4	251.7	254.6	259.4	260.9	264.2
Order VII (excluding MLH 342)	Mechanical engineering	226.1	235.4	244.5	255.7	264.4	233.0	247.0	252.6	255.5	259.0	262.2	264.4	266.5	270.6
Order VIII	Instrument engineering	190.9	196.7	203.7	211.6	217.3	193.7	206.7	210.1	211.7	213.1	215.6	218.1	218.2	220.6
Order IX	Electrical engineering	199 1	205.8	214.1	223.1	232.6	203.6	215.4	220.1	222.7	226.4	230.2	233.3 p	234.3	236.9
Order XI (excluding MLH 383)	Vehicles	236.8	247.6	260.0	277.1	293.5	241.7	265.0	268.9	279.9	282.6	285.1	297.0	298.3	300.9

Table 2 Price index numbers of output (home sales) continued

1968 SIC		1976			1977		1976			1977					
		2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr	2nd qtr p	Jul	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May p	Jun p	Jul p
Order XII	Metal goods industries n.e.s.	227.1	238.3	253.6	263.5	272.1	235.4	256.1	261.2	263.6	265.8	270.8 r	271.9	273.6	276.7
Order XIII	Textile industries	201.1	209.6	219.9	234.9	241.8	207.2	222.4	232.4	235.2	237.1	240.3	241.8	243.2	245.7
Order XV	Clothing and footwear	180.3	186.4	193.7	202.4	206.5	184.3	194.8	201.5	202.3	203.4	204.8	206.6	208.0	210.8
441 to 445 and 449	Made-up clothing	175.9	180.2	188.5	195.5	198.3	178.3	189.6	195.1	195.5	196.0	197.1	198.1	199.6	201.7
461, 464 and 469	Bricks, cement, etc, industries	243.1	254.3	265.6	279.8	294.6	250.6	270.0	273.4	280.6	285.5	288.3	293.8	301.6	306.6
462 and 463	Pottery and glass industries	223.2	230.2	241.5	251.4	266.2	227.6	243.0	247.2	251.2	255.9	263.3	267.0	268.4	269.1
Order XVII	Timber industries	225.5	235.7	248.5	266.6	275.7	231.2	253.6	261.7	266.9	271.1	273.3	275.8	278.1	279.4
481 to 484	Paper industries	242.4	254.6	266.0	278.5	284.4	248.8	270.1	277.7	278.5	279.4	281.9	285.2	286.1	287.9
Order XX	New construction‡	246	264	281	291 p					291 p					

‡ Index of building costs relate to average for the quarter (*Department of Environment*). r Revised

Table 3a Commodities produced in the United Kingdom (published monthly)

1970 = 100

1968 SIC		1976	1977			
		Jul	Apr	May	Jun p	Jul p
Mining and quarrying						
101	Coal	350.3	402.7	402.7	402.5	402.5
102	Stone and slate quarrying and mining	268.5	304.8	315.1 p	317.0	318.5
102/1	Granite and limestone roadstone	254.5	283.4	294.4 p	297.4	300.4
	Coated limestone roadstone	312.1	364.3	376.8 p	378.5	378.5
	Granite and other chippings	237.0	255.1	264.0 p	265.3	265.6
103	Chalk, clay, sand and gravel extraction					
	Sand and gravel – ex pit or works	237.5	276.4	297.1	310.6	310.6
	Sand and gravel – delivered	194.4	229.3	243.7	248.0	248.0
Food, drink and tobacco						
240	Tobacco	168.9	205.9	208.8	213.8	214.3
Coal and petroleum products						
261	Coke ovens and manufactured fuel					
	Foundry coke	404.2	468.7	468.7	468.7	468.7
262	Mineral oil refining					
	Petroleum products	386.8	478.5	497.6	497.6	497.6
	Motor spirit two star (including duty)ø	208.7	238.6	243.3	243.3	243.3
	Medium fuel oil (950-secs including duty)ø	358.5	489.5	505.4	505.4	505.4
	Derv fuel (including duty)ø	194.5	234.5	240.6	240.6	240.6
263	Lubricating oils and greases	238.0	281.2	282.4	295.5	295.5
Chemicals and allied industries						
271	General chemicals	247.7	281.9	285.3	287.8	290.8
271/1	Inorganic chemicals (including inorganic gases)	241.5	272.4	274.0	278.2	280.0
271/2	Organic chemicals (including organic gases)	270.4	303.6	309.0	310.7	313.0
272	Pharmaceutical chemicals and preparations					
	Pharmaceutical chemicals	217.3 r	256.2	260.5	260.7	261.9
	Pharmaceutical preparations	195.0	215.7	218.1	220.3	224.6
273	Toilet preparations	190.7	214.4	216.7	221.5	228.3
274	Paint	224.8	253.3	257.1	260.3	265.8
276	Synthetic resins and plastics materials and synthetic rubber					
276/1	Synthetic resins and plastics materials	215.4	241.7	242.9 p	244.6	248.0
	Polyolefin moulding materials	238.9	246.8	247.8 p	248.1	251.6
	Polyvinyl chlorides	244.5	277.9	280.8	283.0	286.1
279	Other chemical industries					
279/3	Explosives, fireworks, etc	248.7	279.1	279.1	279.1	284.0
Metal manufacture						
311/2	Steel					
	Steel sheets	263.3	286.4	286.5	286.5	286.5
	Electrical steel sheets	266.9	296.9	297.0	297.0	297.0
	Stainless steel sheets	188.2	235.4	235.4	235.4	235.4
	Uncoated steel sheets (other than stainless and electrical)	276.0	295.4	295.5	295.5	295.5
	Galvanised steel sheets	270.7	290.0	290.2	290.2	290.2
	Tinplate	242.1	303.4	305.1	308.6	308.6
	Semi-finished steels	313.9	348.8	349.1	349.1	356.0
	Semi-finished steels for forgings (other than drop forgings)	324.6	363.6	364.0	364.0	377.6
	Semi-finished steels for alloy stainless products (except sheets and tubes)	272.8	303.4	303.8	303.8	312.0
	Semi-finished steels for drop-forgings and stampings	316.3	352.5	353.0	353.0	365.6
	Semi-finished steels for tubes	323.4	360.0	360.1	360.1	365.0
	Semi-finished steel for forgings (other than drop forgings) (using Public Sector indicators)	329.6	360.6	361.2	361.2	374.2
	Finished steels (other than sheets, tinplate, tubes, forgings and castings)	283.3	315.5	314.4	314.1	317.8
	Steel wire rods	283.0	319.8	319.9	319.9	320.4
	Heavy steel rails and fishplates	312.5	347.7	347.7	347.7	360.2
	Steel plates (alloy)	276.4 r	307.8	334.2	334.2	334.2
	Steel plates (non-alloy)	282.5	303.7	303.8	303.8	303.8
	Steel sheet piling	309.9	336.0	341.2	341.2	355.8
	Heavy steel bars and sections	298.5	332.9	333.4	333.4	347.7
	Light re-rolled bars and sections	294.6	333.9	327.8	326.0	326.0
	Hot rolled steel strip	316.7	357.0	357.1	357.1	357.1
	Bright steel bars (non-alloy)	278.9	315.7	315.7	315.7	318.6
	Cold rolled steel strip (non-alloy)	265.3	287.8	287.8	287.8	287.8
	Alloy steel bars and rods, black (excluding stainless)	256.0	279.2	279.2	279.2	291.9
	Finished stainless steels	216.7	256.1	256.2	256.2	256.2
	High speed tool and magnet steel	242.2	291.4	292.5	297.5	297.5
	Steel castings	245.5	285.5	290.6	292.1	292.9
	Carbon steel castings	242.2	293.5	295.8	297.9	299.1
	Stainless and heat resisting alloy steel castings	214.9	240.9	252.3	252.5	252.6
	Other alloy steel castings	280.3	308.7	314.3	315.6	316.3
	Structural steel	294.3	321.8	322.1	322.1	326.9
	Forgings (other than drop forgings	340.8	392.1	392.5	393.2	393.2
312	Steel tubes					
	Steel tubes and fittings	295.5	337.5	337.8	337.9	345.9
	Steel tubes (other than electric conduit tubes)	297.4	340.8	340.8	340.8	349.4
	Non-alloy steel tubes, hot finished	315.5	363.1	363.1	363.1	375.4
	Pipe fittings	264.7	279.7	285.1	286.8	287.7
313	Iron castings, etc	288.8	313.9	317.1	318.2	325.7
313/3 and 313/4	Iron castings	277.8	306.3	309.8	311.1	315.3
313/4	Other iron castings					
	Cast and spun iron pipes and fittings	295.9	330.6	330.6	331.3	336.4
321	Aluminium and aluminium alloys					
	Wrought aluminium	217.9 r	274.1	275.2	277.6	280.8

Wholesale price indices: further information

Correspondence: Departments of Industry, Trade and Prices and Consumer Protection, Economics and Statistics Division 4, Room 249, Sanctuary Buildings, Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3DB

01-215 3544 tables 1 and 2

01-215 3549 engineering

01-215 5216 chemicals, steel, building materials, etc

01-215 3548 textiles, clothing, timber, paper, etc

01-215 3173 imported commodities

Table 3a **Commodities produced in the United Kingdom (published monthly)** continued

1968 SIC		1976 Jul	1977 Apr	May	Jun p	Jul p
	Aluminium: Rolled	204.3 r	278.0	280.6	282.2	282.2
	Extruded and drawn aluminium products – other than wire	216.9 r	276.0	276.2	279.0	279.0
	Aluminium: Castings	238.1 r	278.8	279.4	283.6	283.6
	Aluminium: Forgings	213.4 r	242.6	242.6	242.6	254.6
322	Copper, brass and other copper alloys					
	Copper tubes	171.4	175.1	166.9	164.0	163.4
	Brass ingots	174.1	171.5	170.6	166.5	163.1
Mechanical engineering						
331	Agricultural machinery	233.3	281.9	284.0 p	285.3	290.2
	Soil preparation and cultivating machinery	242.3	282.1	282.2	283.2	298.0 e
	Harvesting, threshing, feed-processing machinery, etc	235.1	290.0	291.8 p	293.6	295.7 e
	Pick-up balers	238.0	290.8	290.8	290.9	291.2 e
	Grinding mills and meal mixers	239.2	277.8	279.8	279.8	282.7 e
	Milking machines	227.7	272.7	272.7	272.7	274.3 e
	Other agricultural machinery (spraying machinery, general purpose elevators and conveyors etc)	223.7	262.6	272.3	273.1	276.5 e
332	Metal-working machine tools	253.3	285.0	288.6	290.1	301.0 e
332/1	Metal-cutting machine tools	258.3	287.5	291.1	291.2	306.3 e
332/2	Metal-forming machine tools	243.9	278.4	283.2	285.2	287.4 e
333	Pumps, valves, compressors, fluid power equipment	228.8	252.9 p	254.6 p	255.5	257.0
333/1	Pumps	214.9	240.7 p	241.2 p	241.8	243.2
	Kerbside petrol and oil measuring pumps	205.9	223.7	223.7	225.8	226.2 e
	Industrial pumps	215.5	241.7 p	242.3 p	242.8	244.2 e
	Centrifugal, turbine and axial flow pumps	218.3	246.7 p	247.5 p	248.3	250.6 e
333/2	Industrial valves	260.2	272.7 p	275.8 p	276.4	281.0 e
	Iron valves	259.1	280.7 p	286.3 p	287.2	288.3 e
	Steel valves	277.8	278.8 p	280.7 p	280.9	286.2 e
	Non-ferrous valves	238.5	257.6 p	260.0 p	261.1	267.7 e
333/3	Air and gas compressors	225.0	273.5	275.1	276.3	276.7 e
333/4	Fluid power equipment					
	Oil/hydraulic fluid power equipment	214.3	237.4 p	238.3 p	240.3	240.9 e
	Pneumatic fluid power and control equipment	175.8	207.1	208.8	208.8	210.3 e
334	Stationary internal combustion engines and steam turbines	231.8	265.0	268.5	273.6	273.6
336	Construction and earth-moving equipment	237.8	278.4 p	282.7 p	283.1	286.3
	Contractors' plant and parts	236.5	277.9 p	282.5 p	282.9	286.2 e
	Excavators, trenchers, diggers, etc	252.7	313.9	313.9	313.9	320.5 e
	Concrete mixers	230.0	264.0 p	264.0 p	264.0	264.0 e
	Dumpers	231.7	262.5	265.6	265.6	265.6 e
	Crawler tractors	218.6	251.9	253.2 p	253.2	256.1 e
	Crushing and screening plant and parts	246.6	275.7 p	275.7 p	275.7	278.3 e
337	Mechanical handling equipment	225.1	254.2	256.1	258.3	260.3
337/2	Cranes	226.1	252.1	252.1	254.2	257.8
337/4	Lifting and winding devices	227.8	261.8	264.4	266.9	270.3
337/5	Powered industrial trucks and tractors	234.2	273.8	277.3	280.2	281.0
339/1	Mining machinery	206.0	228.6	228.7	230.0	230.5 e
339/3	Commercial and industrial refrigeration machinery	223.0	270.4	272.6	273.1	276.3
339/5	Scales and weighing machinery	240.7	264.8	273.1	273.6	273.9 e
339/6	Portable power tools	204.7	233.7	234.1	235.6	241.7 e
339/7	Food and drink processing machinery	221.1	258.5	258.8	262.8	268.4
339/8	Bottle washing, bottling, packaging, labelling and canning machinery	221.8	254.6	255.4	256.1	259.9
339/9	Miscellaneous machinery	224.5	257.2 p	258.2 p	265.4	268.7 e
Instrument engineering						
352	Clocks, watches and time recorders	217.5	240.3	240.3	240.3	243.5
354	Scientific and industrial instruments and systems	194.9	215.7	217.9 p	218.2	220.6 e
354/1	Optical instruments					
	Microscopes	193.9	216.2	216.2	216.2	216.2 e
354/2	Other scientific and industrial instruments					
	Process measuring and control instruments	200.7	223.7	225.5	226.0	227.1 e
	Analytical instruments	184.2	198.5	200.5	200.7	210.4 e
	Spectrophotometers and absorptiometers	156.0	164.6	167.2	167.2	174.5 e
	Electrical testing, measuring and control instruments	189.0	206.9	210.8	210.8	210.9 e
Electrical engineering						
365/	Broadcast receiving and sound reproduction equipment	146.7	164.7	166.2 p	166.9	167.6 e
365/1	Gramophone records and pre-recorded tapes	178.2	197.0	197.0	197.0	197.0 e
	Gramophone records	183.8	203.5	203.5	203.5	203.5 e
	Pre-recorded tapes – cassettes	181.5	199.7	199.7	199.7	199.7 e
	Pre-recorded tapes – cartridges	154.2	170.1	170.1	170.1	170.1 e
365/2	Other broadcast receiving and sound reproduction equipment	143.3	161.2	162.8 p	163.6	164.4 e
	Domestic television receivers†	144.4	164.7	166.7 p	167.0	167.3 e
	Domestic television receivers – colour†	131.8	148.8	148.9 p	149.3	150.4 e
	Domestic television receivers – monochrome†	148.0	169.3	171.8 p	172.1	172.1 e
	Record players and tape recorders	141.0	154.2	155.2 p	155.7	157.1 e
368	Domestic electrical appliances	180.6	214.2 p	216.3 p	216.6	223.6
	Domestic electrical cooking appliances	184.5	221.6	226.2	226.3	232.2 e
	Electric cookers	183.8	222.4	227.8	227.8	234.0 e
	Domestic electrical heating appliances	196.9	226.9	229.8	229.8	233.8 e
	Electric fires	191.6	230.7	237.4	237.4	237.4 e
	Electric water heaters, wash boilers, etc	247.7	278.3	278.3	278.3	279.4 e
	Electric vacuum cleaners and polishers	190.8	227.3	227.3	227.3	240.7 e
	Domestic electric flat irons	206.6	245.2	247.0	247.0	259.7 e
	Domestic refrigerators, gas and electric	172.0	204.6	206.8	209.4	213.9 e
	Domestic electric refrigerators	174.0	215.1	218.2	221.9	228.3 e
369/2 and 369/3	Batteries and accumulators	229.2	276.4	276.4	276.4	279.5 e
369/4	Electric lamps and fluorescent tubes	193.4	218.1	238.2	241.1	241.1 e
Vehicles						
380	Wheeled tractors	292.6	346.1	362.8	365.8	366.9
381	Motor vehicles					
	Passenger cars	234.3	276.3	290.7	291.8	293.8 e
	Passenger cars‡	213.6	251.9	265.1	266.0	267.9 e
	Commercial and public service vehicles	256.5	302.5	317.2	318.5	321.9 e
	Commercial vehicles	258.2	305.4	320.8	322.0	324.7 e
	Commercial vehicles and chassis not exceeding 3.5 tons Gross Vehicle Weight	256.7	304.3	321.4	322.5	325.0 e
	Commercial vehicles and chassis exceeding 3.5 tons but not exceeding 16 tons Gross Vehicle Weight	268.0	314.6	327.4	329.1	332.5 e
	Commercial vehicles and chassis exceeding 16 tons Gross Vehicle Weight	238.9	284.0	291.7	291.7	293.9 e
	Commercial vehicles not exceeding 1½ tons Gross Vehicle Weight	258.1	305.0	324.2	325.5	327.8 e
	Commercial vehicles and chassis over 1½ tons Gross Vehicle Weight	255.7	302.3	314.5	315.2	317.7 e
	Public service vehicles	259.9	297.2	305.1	308.1	319.5 e
Metal goods not elsewhere specified						
390	Engineers' small tools and gauges					
	Engineers' cutting tools	197.5	237.3	244.1	245.4	248.5
	Engineers' cutting tools: diamond	170.0	191.6	199.4	201.7	201.7
	Engineers' cutting tools and parts: non-diamond	198.8	239.7	246.2	247.3	250.5
	Hacksaw blades	210.2	255.4	265.5	269.8	274.9
391	Hand tools and implements	246.1	292.2	296.1	300.5	306.7
392	Cutlery and tableware, etc	223.9	256.6	256.6	261.5	262.3
393	Nuts and bolts, etc	282.8	330.1	330.1	332.1	336.5
	High tensile steel nuts and bolts	300.2	348.4	348.4	353.0	357.7
399	Metal industries not elsewhere specified					
399/1	Metal furniture, office and works equipment	211.7	234.7	236.9	237.7	242.9
	Metal non-domestic furniture	221.6	244.9	246.1	247.0	252.1
	Metal chairs	191.3	211.2	213.3	213.3	216.2
	Metal cabinets	210.9	235.5	239.2	241.3	243.2
399/2	Metal windows and door frames					
	Metal windows	334.9	403.0	406.8	412.1	414.4
399/9	Domestic gas appliances	181.2	212.3	213.1	218.2	224.3
	Gas cookers	180.1	211.1	211.6	219.8	222.3
	Gas water heaters and wash boilers	194.7	238.8	238.8	238.8	247.5
	Gas fires and space heaters	177.9	203.8	205.4	206.6	218.8
	Gas water heaters and gas fires	182.6	213.5	214.6	215.4	226.7
399/12	Miscellaneous metal goods					
	Catering equipment	205.2	241.9	242.0	242.0	243.4
	Plumbers' brassware	197.1	215.4	215.4	215.6	219.9
	Domestic oil burning appliances	227.0	265.1	274.3	274.3	274.3
Textiles						
411	Man-made fibres production	175.5	196.1	196.3	196.9	198.1
412	Spinning and doubling on the cotton and flax systems	230.5	247.2	247.9	244.1	246.5
	Cotton yarns, cotton-spun man-made fibres yarns and mixtures of both	264.1	281.6	282.4	276.9	279.7
413	Weaving of cotton, linen and man-made fibres	224.5	255.6	257.3	258.6	262.0
	Woven cotton cloth in the loomstate	236.5	269.5	272.6	274.1	278.7
	Man-made fibres fabrics in the loomstate	213.0	236.6	236.6	237.9	240.2
414	Woollen and worsted	239.0	283.8	287.6	287.8	288.1

Table 3a continued

1968 SIC		1976 Jul	1977 Apr	May	Jun p	Jul p
414/2	Worsted spinning	224.4	265.7	273.5	274.9	275.8
	Yarns of wool spun on the worsted system	233.8	285.6	295.4	294.7	296.0
	Yarns of man-made fibres spun on the worsted system	188.9	201.7	205.9	212.4	212.8
417	Hosiery and other knitted goods	170.2	196.1	196.4	199.8	202.8
419	Carpets and rugs	210.7	248.3	250.3	250.4	251.1
	Carpets	210.2	247.9	250.0	250.1	250.7 e
	Carpets – woven	230.3	275.5	278.0	278.1	278.4 e
	Tufted carpets	170.4	193.3	194.7	194.7	195.9
429	Other textile industries					
429/1	Asbestos manufactures	205.0	242.1	244.9	245.0	246.7
	Leather, leather goods and fur					
431/1	Leather for footwear	205.9	218.2	218.2	218.2	218.4
	Clothing and footwear					
450	Footwear – including rubber footwear	199.0	224.3	228.3	229.5	234.9
	Bricks, pottery, glass, cement, etc					
461	Bricks, fireclay and refractory goods	254.7	298.2	304.9	313.8	317.0
461/1	Refractory goods including bricks	257.6	313.7	313.7	324.2	328.6
461/2	Non-refractory goods including building bricks	253.3	291.0	300.9	308.9	311.6
	Building bricks – delivered	265.8	300.1	311.8	313.6	315.6
	Engineering bricks – delivered	283.9	320.7	324.6	325.9	335.5
463	Glass	229.5	268.8	273.0 p	274.4	275.3
463/1	Glass other than containers	226.2	258.9	265.9	268.2	269.7
	Flat glass (including safety and silvered glass)	220.9	255.7	261.8	261.9	263.3
	Glazing sheet and plate glass	197.8	244.7	246.1	246.1	246.1
463/2	Glass containers	234.3	283.6	283.6 p	283.6	283.6
464	Cement	250.0	280.6	280.6	305.6	314.6
	Cement – delivered in bulk	250.0	280.6	280.6	305.5	314.6
	Cement – delivered in bags	250.1	280.7	280.7	305.6	314.6
469/2	Building materials not elsewhere specified	252.1 r	287.8	293.4 p	300.0	305.6
	Precast concrete products	241.3	272.0	275.2	280.6	288.4
	Precast concrete pipes – delivered	289.1	322.1	328.6	334.8	338.9
	Precast concrete manholes – delivered	225.7	250.7	255.7	259.9	262.1
	Plaster gypsum	228.1	258.0	265.0	265.0	265.0
	Mastic asphalt	217.2	280.9	283.3	283.3	291.6
	Timber, furniture etc					
471/1	Timber sawmilling					
	Homegrown hardwood – sawn	240.3	284.6	286.2	289.2	292.3
471/2	Building joinery	267.1	322.5	322.8	323.7	327.2
	Timber structures and structural components	273.2	319.9	320.4	321.3	323.1
	Door sets, doors and door frames (excluding hardwood doors architecturally designed)	267.6	330.9	331.4	331.4	332.7
	Windows and window frames (wood)	288.6	353.2	353.2	356.1	359.8
	Other building joinery (ie architectural and general joinery)	270.1	333.3	333.3	333.3	344.1

1968 SIC		1976 Jul	1977 Apr	May	Jun p	Jul p
472	Furniture and upholstery	208.6	243.7	245.6	249.6	251.0
	Domestic furniture	204.2	239.0	241.2	245.8	247.3 e
	Non-upholstered furniture – domestic	210.0	250.5	253.8	259.2	261.2
	Bedroom furniture	189.1	215.3	216.7	219.1	222.9 e
	Bookcases, bookshelves, bureaux, occasional furniture	205.3	244.0	244.4	252.0	252.6 e
	Dining room furniture	212.0	246.9	247.3	257.3	258.5
	Kitchen furniture	225.3	280.5	287.5	293.3	294.7
	Upholstered furniture	194.8	220.1	220.6	224.1	224.7 e
	Two and three-piece suites	186.4	209.6	209.8	210.8	211.6
	Fireside chairs – open wood arm, easy chairs	216.3	247.1	248.8	258.9	258.9
473	Bedding etc	227.4	272.7	277.6	279.7	280.3
	Upholstered spring interior mattresses	231.0	278.5	287.0	287.5	287.5 e
	Divan sets	250.0	292.8	295.8	300.9	302.6 e
	Paper, printing and publishing					
481	Paper and board	249.2	288.1	289.6	289.6	289.8
	Printings and writings – excluding newsprint	252.0	285.8	285.8	285.8	285.8
482	Packaging products of paper, board and associated materials					
482/1	Cardboard boxes, cartons and packing cases – fibreboard	246.0	276.7	282.4	283.8	284.9
483	Manufactured stationery	247.3	290.7	292.1	293.2	300.2
484	Manufactures of paper and board not elsewhere specified					
484/1	Wallpaper	225.1	244.3	244.3	244.3	250.4
489	Other printing, publishing, bookbinding, etc.					
	General printing, bookbinding, etc.	213.7	228.1	232.2	234.2	235.1
	Other manufacturing industries					
491	Rubber manufactures					
491/1	Rubber tyres and tubes	206.3	243.1	243.3	243.6	248.6
492	Linoleum, plastics, floor covering and leathercloth					
	Linoleum and felt base	210.6	226.3	226.3	226.3	228.0 e
102/1 and 103 312	Part Aggregates for concrete	217.4	233.4	249.8	252.8	252.8
361/2 362 369/5 338	Part Electrical installation materials, domestic	208.9	240.7	241.4	243.2	249.0 e
399/1 399/3 472	Part Office equipment and machinery	192.7	217.9	219.0	220.3	223.0
399/1 472	Part Office furniture	238.1	269.9	270.7	271.5	274.9
412 414	Part All spun man-made fibres yarns	202.6	222.3	229.1	230.8	233.0

ø Index based on scheduled outer zone prices for minimum bulk loads of 500 gallons (motor spirit 1000 gallons) exclusive of rebates.
p Provisional
e Estimates which are subject to possible major revisions.
† Excludes sales to rental companies.
‡ Inclusive of purchase tax (before its abolition), VAT and Car Tax.
r Revised.

Revisions to Table 3a

1968 SIC		Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
414	Woollen and worsted	1976	—	—	—	227.5	233.6	236.3	239.0	244.8	250.0	262.6	269.6	270.8
		1977	278.5	282.1	283.2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
312 361/2 362 369/5	Part Electrical installation materials, domestic	1977	—	235.9	238.2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Table 3b Commodities wholly or mainly imported into the United Kingdom (as published monthly) 1970 = 100

	1976 Jul	1977 Apr	May	Jun p	Jul p
Hides and skins	324.2	398.7	387.8	324.2	329.7
Non-ferrous metals:					
Aluminium, virgin ingot delivered	196.0	246.2	246.2	248.8	265.7
Copper‡	156.4	140.9	135.3	129.3	122.8
Lead‡	224.5	297.4	303.4	260.1	256.4
Nickel§	230.6	259.9	259.8	259.8	259.7
Tin, ingot min. 99.75%‡	310.7	361.5	374.1	366.1	394.1
Zinc‡	352.2	308.9	289.0	255.7	254.7
Zinc§	347.6	361.4	357.0	318.3	317.6
Natural rubber	260.4	273.4	269.1	257.1	257.7
Sulphur, crude cif (for acid making)	288.1	297.2	297.2	297.2	275.1
Textiles:					
Raw cotton, all types	415.8	400.4	387.7	345.3	326.6
American types, cif Liverpool	417.4	413.0	398.2	347.7	327.5
Egyptian types, cif Liverpool	407.7	337.8	335.5	333.0	322.1

	1976 Jul	1977 Apr	May	Jun p	Jul p
Raw wool – all types	302.8	350.4	338.6	333.1	331.2
Imported	300.2	339.5	331.4	330.5	331.0
Imported, merino	278.5	312.4	308.3	308.0	309.9
Imported, fine crossbred	296.5	333.7	327.8	325.7	327.9
Imported, medium and coarse crossbred	375.9	431.5	412.8	412.0	408.2
British types	317.8	412.0	379.5	347.5	332.4
Timber:					
Imported hardwood (ex-yard or wharf)	297.3	357.0	360.0	362.6	361.9 e
Imported plywood (delivered to consumers)	279.8	328.4	330.7	331.7	332.1 e
Imported softwood (delivered to consumers)	328.2	386.7	388.2	389.1	389.7 e
Woodpulp, imported	332.5	349.4	349.5	348.3	344.6

‡ LME settlement price. § Producer's price. p Provisional. e Estimates which are subject to possible major revision.

Table 4a Supplementary list of commodities produced in the United Kingdom (published April, August and December)

1970 = 100

1968 SIC		1977 Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun p
	Mining and quarrying					
102/1	Stone quarrying and mining	296.5	298.4	302.4	313.0 p	315.0
	Granite and other chippings, aggregate and roadstones	244.2	246.1	245.9	257.8	258.0
	Coated granite and whinstone roadstone	357.5	357.5	357.5	369.9	370.2
	Uncoated limestone roadstone	266.1	271.8	274.9	283.6 p	291.8
	Uncoated limestone roadstone (excluding aggregates)	248.7	254.5	254.2	260.0 p	268.8
	Agricultural ground limestone	221.0	221.0	221.0	232.7	232.9
	Industrial ground limestone	250.3	250.3	264.3	272.2	272.2
102/2	Slate quarrying and mining					
	Slates	384.5	384.5	384.5	384.5	384.5
103	Chalk, clay, sand and gravel extraction	271.9	271.8	274.9	292.0	302.7
	China clay	240.4	240.4	261.1	263.4	263.4
	Moulding sand	229.2	229.2	229.2	229.2	249.2
109	Other mining and quarrying					
109/3	Salt mines, brine pits, salt works					
	Salt	253.8	253.8	266.7	269.6	272.4
	Food, drink and tobacco					
211/1	Wheat milling					
	Flour for bread making	301.6	308.3	309.8	317.8	325.6
216	Sugar					
	Sugar – bulk granulated	306.8	309.4	309.4	309.4	309.4
217	Cocoa, chocolate and sugar confectionery					
	Chocolate and sugar confectionery	283.9	287.5	291.1	294.0	295.7
221	Vegetable and animal oils and fats	298.0	314.4	333.3	342.8	321.2
231	Brewing and malting	191.9	192.1	193.7	195.9	195.9
240	Tobacco					
	Cigarettes	190.9	190.9	207.1	210.2	215.5
	Pipe tobacco	188.2	188.2	194.6	195.6	197.1
	Chemicals and allied industries					
271/1	Inorganic chemicals (including inorganic gases)					
	Caustic soda, soda ash, and other sodium compounds	315.9	325.5	337.2	339.1	346.1
	Caustic soda	269.8	269.8	289.6	289.9	291.0
	Soda ash	354.6	379.0	380.7	380.7	397.6
	Other sodium compounds	322.6	325.5	339.8	346.2	347.8
	Inorganic chemicals other than sodium and sodium compounds	244.4	251.3	251.9	253.5	256.7
	Sulphuric and other inorganic acids	208.2	216.7	218.4	218.6	218.6
	Sulphuric acid	181.8	181.8	181.8	181.8	181.8
	Inorganic acids (other than sulphuric)	231.4	247.3	250.6	251.0	251.0
	Blacks, carbon and mineral	330.1	331.6	349.4	353.3	353.3
	Phosphorous and phosphorous compounds	353.6	353.6	353.6	353.6	353.6
271/2	Organic chemicals (including organic gases)					
	Alcohols	304.3	304.6	304.6	317.8	319.3
	Coal tar products	384.3	384.3	404.5	412.3	425.2
	Halogenated, sulphonated, nitrated or nitrostated derivatives of hydrocarbons	217.4	218.4	223.2	223.6	223.8
	Phenols	316.1	316.1	316.1	316.1	316.1
	Nitrogen-function organic compounds	216.7	216.7	218.3	219.7	220.3
271/3	Other chemicals					
	Bleaching materials	250.0	264.9	266.5	266.5	266.8
	Plasticisers	253.5	261.1	261.1	258.1	258.0
	Phthalate plasticisers	246.6	251.4	251.5	247.3	247.2
272	Pharmaceutical chemicals and preparations					
	Anti-infective agents	184.3	184.3	190.8	192.7	193.5
	Antibiotic preparations	163.7	163.7	163.8	163.8	163.8
	Hormone preparations	133.2	133.2	137.5	137.5	137.5
	Preparations affecting metabolism and nutrition	222.6	225.0	228.5	228.6	228.9
	Vitamins	187.2	187.2	193.2	194.7	194.7
	Preparations affecting the nervous system	216.5	217.7	225.0	226.3	228.7
	Analgesics	235.0	237.1	244.4	247.4	252.6
	Aspirin and compounds	244.4	248.8	251.2	252.1	259.8
	Other analgesics	216.0	213.6	230.5	237.9	238.0
	Anti-depressives	232.6	235.0	235.0	235.0	235.0
	Preparations acting on the cardiovascular system	170.0	170.4	171.4	171.7	171.7
	Preparations acting on the alimentary system	249.1	251.1	254.8	257.9	265.6
	Laxatives	264.3	264.3	264.3	270.2	270.8
	Preparations acting on the respiratory system	248.8	249.8	258.2	265.8	265.9
273	Toilet preparations					
	Hair settings, lotions and spirits	182.1	182.1	185.6	189.6	195.1
	Soapless shampoos	210.9	210.9	213.1	213.4	221.4
	Dental preparations	215.7	220.9	225.2	227.8	229.9
	Preparations especially for men	220.2	220.2	220.2	227.1	235.8
	Make-up	222.0	222.0	225.1	228.2	231.4
	Face powders	222.8	222.8	223.6	225.0	225.0
	Lipsticks	221.5	221.5	229.8	232.1	234.6
	Manicure preparations	247.3	247.3	247.3	265.1	265.1
	Other make-ups	210.6	210.6	216.4	216.8	228.0
	Eye make-up	205.1	205.1	205.1	205.1	205.1
	Treatment creams	216.7	218.2	219.3	220.8	226.0
	Face creams	191.6	191.6	192.8	195.0	200.0
	Hand creams and jellies	241.9	245.1	247.6	247.6	247.6
	Face and skin lotions	230.4	232.3	232.3	234.0	243.3
	Talcum, baby and other dusting powders	235.2	237.2	239.3	241.1	243.4
	Depilatories and deodorants	175.1	180.1	179.2	180.0	180.4
274	Paint					
	Oil and/or synthetic-based non-aqueous air-drying primers, surfacers and sealers	293.3	293.3	300.7	304.7	305.4
	Oil and/or synthetic-based non-aqueous air-drying undercoats	237.4	237.4	240.7	246.2	249.0
	Oil and/or synthetic-based non-aqueous air-drying finishes	240.7	240.7	242.4	247.6	250.4
	Emulsion paints	215.4	215.4	216.2	220.3	223.2
	Paste fillers and mastics	267.0	267.6	274.1	274.8	274.8
275	Soaps, detergents, candles and glycerine	232.9	233.5	243.0	244.8	249.7
	Glycerine	291.6	291.7	291.7	291.7	291.7
	Soap (excluding scouring powders)	232.7	233.1	242.0	243.7	247.4
	Toilet and shaving soap	243.8	244.8	253.5	256.2	258.6
	Soapless detergents	209.6	209.8	216.0	217.2	220.1
	Soapless detergents: pastes and other forms (excluding powders	204.8	205.3	210.8	212.8	215.1
	Scouring powders	236.4	238.0	258.2	258.9	261.4
	Oleine, stearine, etc.	283.6	285.3	305.3	310.6	329.5
276	Synthetic resins, plastics materials and synthetic rubber	237.1	240.5	245.4	246.7 p	248.4
	Laminated materials	276.6	276.6	297.3	297.3	298.4
	Phenolic and cresylic plastics – resins	294.9	296.2	296.2	296.2	300.1
	Phenolic and cresylic plastics – moulding powders	228.7	230.4	231.6	231.6	231.6
	Polystyrene and styrene copolymers – moulding powders	268.3	267.8	267.9	270.7	275.3
	General purpose polystyrene	322.0	321.9	321.9	321.8	331.5
	Expandable polystyrene, and styrene copolymers	245.4	245.5	245.5	255.4	255.4
	Transparent cellulose wrapping	217.2	234.6	235.4	235.4	235.4
277	Dyestuffs and pigments	240.6	240.9	247.1	249.1	256.2
	Pigments	268.9	269.5	279.6	281.1	280.8
	Inorganic pigments and earth colours	261.4	261.4	263.0	263.0	263.0
	White lead, dry*	251.3	284.9	264.4	270.9	249.3
279	Other chemical industries	237.2	239.7	243.4	246.6	248.8
279/2	Formulated adhesives, gelatine etc.					
	Adhesives	253.5	253.5	256.4	257.8	261.7
279/4	Formulated pesticides etc.					
	Formulated pesticides	243.3	244.0	247.1	249.9	251.7
	Herbicides	258.4	259.1	259.1	258.6	258.6
279/6	Surgical and medical dressings and sanitary towels	229.2	233.3	235.8	239.9	244.4
	Surgical and medical dressings	226.5	227.1	230.2	238.2	241.8
	Sanitary towels	232.2	240.2	241.8	241.7	247.2
279/7	Photographic paper and film and photochemical materials	212.2	214.0	215.1	218.9	224.3
	Sensitised paper, cloth, etc.	209.4	211.8	213.1	216.2	223.5
	Metal manufacture					
313	Iron castings etc.					
313/3	Engineers' castings					
	Automobile iron castings	278.6	282.5	282.6	282.3	282.3
	Engineers' castings (other than automobile castings)	297.5	299.2	307.8	312.6	314.4
	Malleable iron castings	305.6	307.7	308.5	313.0	315.4
313/4	Other iron castings					
	Building and domestic castings (excluding malleable)	322.5	323.9	327.3	334.0	335.7
	Cast iron stoves and grates, etc.	340.7	343.6	347.6	347.6	348.4
321	Aluminium and aluminium alloys					
	Aluminium plate, sheet and strip	270.4	271.8	276.5	278.8	281.1
322	Copper, brass and other copper alloys					
	Copper sheet and strip	172.7	180.2	173.0	168.9	163.4
	Wrought brass	190.4	196.0	191.0	186.3	179.0
	Brass strip and sheet (and yellow metal condenser plates)	187.9	194.3	187.5	184.2	174.9
323	Other base metals					
	Magnesium ingots, electrolyte min. 99.8%*	366.0	366.0	366.0	366.0	366.0
	Titanium (alloy billets)	219.3	219.3	219.3	219.3	219.3
	Silicon min. 98% pure*	376.5	376.5	376.5	376.5	376.5
	Zinc sheets, 1-17mm basis*	375.8	364.3	364.3	364.3	364.3
	Bismuth§	174.6	174.5	174.3	174.4	165.9
	Cobalt metal, delivered UK*	331.3	334.2	334.1	334.1	339.4
	Lead sheet and pipe	255.2	294.9	267.1	276.8	250.4

Table 4a continued

1968 SIC		1977 Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun p
	Metal goods not elsewhere specified					
391	Hand tools and implements					
	Handsaws and blades (excluding hacksaws)	286.2	292.9	309.5	312.6	317.0
	Pliers, pincers and nippers	297.9	317.5	322.2	322.2	322.2
	Agricultural, horticultural and other heavy edged tools	278.2	279.6	284.9	294.2	297.9
	Carpenters', builders' and other light edged tools	254.0	261.5	275.0	275.0	279.9
	Spanners and wrenches	278.2	288.7	294.8	298.6	302.9
392	Cutlery and tableware, etc.					
	Razors and razor blades	204.4	207.5	217.9	217.9	217.9
	Razor blades	205.4	208.5	219.2	219.2	219.2
	Knives, scissors, etc.	275.6	278.7	280.4	280.4	280.6
	Scissors and tailors' shears	268.8	270.9	270.9	270.9	270.9
	Spoons and forks	294.3	298.6	298.6	298.6	308.4
	Spoons and forks: silver plated	353.3	359.3	359.3	359.3	366.0
	Spoons and forks: stainless steel	266.3	272.3	272.3	272.3	272.3
394	Wire and wire manufactures	251.9	254.7	253.9	253.3	251.7
	Wire and wire manufactures of iron and steel	283.7	283.7	284.6	285.0	285.0
	Iron and steel wire, single stranded	314.6	314.6	314.6	314.6	314.6
	Iron and steel wire, single – bright	314.1	314.1	314.1	314.1	314.1
	Iron and steel wire, galvanised	316.9	316.9	316.9	316.9	316.9
	Wire rope	263.0	263.0	269.3	271.8	271.8
	Wire netting	263.1	263.1	263.7	265.1	265.1
	Chain link fencing	234.2	234.2	234.2	234.2	234.2
	Reinforcement fabric	223.1	223.1	223.1	223.1	223.1
	Wire and wire manufactures of brass and bronze	184.7	189.1	186.3	183.7	179.4
	Brass and bronze woven wire cloth, etc.	226.3	226.7	231.1	232.4	235.0
	Wire and wire manufactures of copper	153.9	161.1	154.0	149.7	142.4
	Copper wire in coils, H.C. wire, 3.15mm*	153.3	160.5	153.3	148.9	141.5
	Woven copper wire	221.6	221.6	229.7	229.6	229.2
396	Jewellery and precious metals					
	Silver bullion*	357.1	382.7	375.5	368.4	350.0
399	Metal industries not elsewhere specified					
399/1	Metal furniture					
	Metal storage cupboards, lockers, shelving and racking	248.3	251.4	252.1	252.1	252.1
	Kitchen and bathroom furniture	207.8	207.8	207.8	212.4	212.4
399/6	Domestic hollow ware	247.7	251.2	253.0	253.0	255.4
	Domestic hollow-ware – aluminium	238.6	244.7	244.7	244.7	244.7
399/7	Industrial hollow ware	264.5	264.5	268.5	269.6	276.0
	Steel drums	273.1	273.1	276.9	277.6	285.3
399/8	Needles, pins, fish hooks and other metal small wares					
	Slide and zip fasteners of metal	244.4	244.4	244.4	244.7	244.7
399/12	Miscellaneous metal goods					
	Metal furnishings for doors and windows	250.7	250.7	255.9	259.4	262.3
	Fire extinguishing apparatus (hand operated, chemical)	209.0	211.0	215.3	215.3	215.3
	Textiles					
412	Spinning and doubling on the cotton and flax systems					
	Cotton yarns, cotton-spun man-made fibres yarns and mixtures of both					
	Cotton yarns	335.0	339.5	338.0	331.8	321.0
	Cotton-spun mixture yarns of cotton and man-made fibres	193.6	193.4	194.2	195.4	192.5
	Cotton-spun man-made fibres yarns	225.1	226.5	231.8	240.0	239.8
	Cotton-spun regenerated man-made fibres yarns	262.1	264.9	269.3	276.0	275.5
	Processed yarns of man-made fibres	143.1	142.8	141.9	141.6	141.3
	Spun yarns of flax and man-made fibres	287.6	291.5	297.6	301.7	305.7
	Flax spun yarns of man-made fibres	201.5	201.5	204.6	206.3	208.0
413	Weaving of cotton, linen and man-made fibres					
	Woven cotton cloth in the loomstate					
	Tyre cord fabric	225.5	225.5	230.2	230.7	230.7
	Other plain cloths (grey), tea towelling, cleaning and dishcloths	264.5	269.1	269.8	270.9	270.0
	Woven linen in the loomstate	314.3	336.8	338.5	345.1	345.1
	Heavy linen	325.8	372.6	376.5	382.2	382.1
	Woven fabric of glass fibre	264.7	264.9	265.1	275.5	278.6
	Woven cloth of glass fibre – except insulation fabric	265.1	265.1	265.1	271.2	275.5
414/1	Wool sorting, cleaning etc, and combing and topmaking					
	Wool tops*	339.2	334.2	327.5	314.5	312.4
414/3	Woven worsted fabrics	279.5	280.5	284.3	283.9	283.5
414/4	Wool recovery					
	Wool rag*	306.1	315.8	323.4	331.3	328.8
414/5	Woollen spinning and weaving					
	Woven woollen fabric	294.2	294.6	297.1	303.0	304.9
	Other woven woollen fabrics	298.5	299.1	302.5	309.8	312.3
	Yarns spun on the woollen system	301.1	300.0	297.2	296.2	291.9
414/6	Pressed wool felt	316.4	316.7	316.7	316.7	316.7
415	Spinning and weaving of jute and other yarns on the jute system	237.9	238.1	245.0	245.0	245.0
	Spun yarns of jute and man-made fibres	224.4	225.0	227.3	227.3	227.3
416	Rope, twine and net	271.8	273.3	280.6	281.2	281.2
	Cordage, cables, ropes and twine of textile materials	274.9	276.4	283.7	284.3	284.3
	Nets and netting	230.6	230.8	239.0	239.0	239.0
417	Hosiery and other knitted goods					
	Hosiery and other knitted goods – hose	159.6	161.6	161.8	161.8	161.8
	Men's hose	188.0	188.0	189.1	189.1	189.1
	Women's hose	165.0	167.8	167.8	167.8	167.8
	Children's hose	196.1	198.7	198.7	198.7	198.7
	Panti-hose, etc.	127.6	129.3	129.3	129.5	129.5
	Hosiery and other knitted goods – underwear	233.5	233.5	235.0	235.0	235.3
	Men's knitted underwear	243.8	243.8	243.8	243.8	243.8
	Men's knitted underwear – man-made fibres and mixture of natural and man-made fibres	228.6	228.6	228.6	228.6	228.6
	Women's knitted underwear	227.8	227.8	231.4	231.4	231.4
	Children's and infants' knitted underwear	226.7	227.0	227.0	227.0	228.6
	Children's and infants' knitted underwear – cotton	222.5	222.5	222.5	222.5	224.9
	Hosiery and other knitted goods – knitted outerwear	203.0	205.1	207.7	207.7	218.4
	Knitted headgear and scarves	262.1	288.7	292.1	292.1	294.3
	Knitted fabrics	186.1	186.3	189.3	189.9	190.5
	Knitted fabrics – weft	204.6	204.6	205.5	206.7	207.7
	Knitted fabrics – warp	165.4	165.8	171.3	171.3	171.3
419	Carpets and rugs					
	Carpets					
	Carpets – woven					
	Axminster carpets	261.4	263.8	273.4	276.4	276.4
	Wilton carpets	269.9	270.1	280.5	281.8	281.9
	Rugs	254.6	260.2	260.2	260.2	260.2
421	Narrow fabrics	244.9	244.9	246.6	247.6	251.9
421/1	Elastic webs and cords	229.4	229.4	229.4	230.5	231.6
421/3	Non-elastic fabrics	255.7	255.7	258.5	258.8	262.8
	Petershams, galloons and ribbons	247.6	247.6	247.6	248.1	257.2
422	Made-up textiles	263.1	266.2	269.0	270.1	271.2
422/1	Household textiles and handkerchiefs	265.7	268.1	272.1	273.2	274.6
	Bed linen – sheets and bedspreads	244.8	245.3	251.1	252.2	253.8
	Tea towels, cleaning and polishing cloths	295.2	298.6	307.2	311.6	315.0
422/2	Canvas sacks and bags and other made-up textiles	257.8	262.1	262.5	263.8	264.1
	Other made-up textiles of canvas, cotton, man-made fibres, etc.	292.0	300.1	300.7	303.3	303.9
429	Other textile industries	221.3	226.9	227.8	231.0	231.0
429/1	Asbestos manufactures					
	Asbestos brake and clutch linings – replacement sales to factors	275.1	288.0	289.0	294.0	294.0
429/2	Other – hair, fibre and allied industries	201.6	202.3	204.6	208.2	208.2
	Needleloom felt and carpeting	202.0	203.3	207.4	208.7	208.7
	Leather, leather goods and fur					
432	Leather goods					
	Travel goods	232.6	232.6	232.6	232.6	232.6
	Clothing and footwear					
441	Weatherproof outerwear	191.9	192.1	194.2	196.0 p	196.1
442	Men's and boys' tailored outerwear	199.4	200.6	200.9	201.0	201.9
	Men's and youths' overcoats	157.7	157.8	157.9	157.9	157.9
	Men's and boys' suits	220.0	222.3	222.3	222.3	222.3
	Men's and boys' jackets – sold separately (including blazers)	194.3	194.3	194.3	195.0	197.3
	Men's and boys' trousers – sold separately	181.5	181.8	183.0	183.0	185.1
443	Women's and young girls' tailored outerwear	190.4	191.3	191.3	193.8	193.8
	Women's overcoats	190.8	190.8	190.8	193.8	193.8
	Women's suits, skirts and slacks – excluding jeans	193.5	193.5	193.5	197.1	197.1
444	Overalls and men's and boys' shirts	221.3	221.6	221.8	222.4	227.6
444/1	Heavy overalls, aprons and jeans	290.6	291.6	292.0	293.4	308.7
444/2	Men's and boys' shirts, nightwear, etc.	194.7	194.7	194.9	195.2	196.4
	Men's and boys' shirts	188.6	188.6	188.8	188.8	189.5
	Men's and boys' shirts – woven fabric	196.0	196.0	196.3	196.4	197.9

Table 4a Supplementary list of commodities produced in the United Kingdom (published April, August and December) continued

1968 SIC		1977 Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun p
	Men's and boys' shirts – knitted fabric	181.7	181.7	181.7	181.7	181.7
	Men's and boys' dressing gowns	211.2	211.2	212.2	219.6	219.6
445	Dresses, lingerie, infants' wear, etc.	178.1	178.1	180.5	181.8	182.9
445/1	Light outerwear	174.3	174.4	176.0	177.7	177.8
445/2	Lingerie	195.5	195.5	199.8	199.8	203.8
445/3	Infants' wear	163.0	163.0	165.8	167.4	167.7
449	Dress industries not elsewhere specified	207.2	207.7	208.6	209.6	210.6
449/1	Corsets, brassieres and swimwear	204.2	204.2	204.2	204.2	204.5
	Women's corsets	208.2	208.2	208.2	208.2	208.5
	Brassieres	200.3	200.3	200.3	200.3	200.6
	Swimwear	196.4	196.4	196.4	196.4	196.4
449/2	Gloves	243.8	246.9	250.1	255.8	260.6
	Fabric gloves	257.2	257.2	258.1	263.5	263.5
	Leather gloves	236.5	241.3	245.8	251.6	259.0
450	Footwear – including rubber footwear					
	Boots and shoes with leather uppers	224.8	226.5	228.0	233.1	234.1
	Men's boots and shoes with leather uppers	253.7	255.0	258.7	261.1	264.2
	Women's shoes and bootees with leather uppers	212.2	214.5	214.6	221.1	221.1
	Boys', girls' and infants' boots and shoes with leather uppers	208.2	209.1	210.2	216.8	216.9
	Boots and shoes with uppers wholly or mainly of materials other than leather	193.9	194.1	197.8	198.0	199.0
	Slippers and indoor footwear	225.7	230.3	230.3	230.3	230.3
	Sandals	247.6	250.8	250.8	250.8	261.4
Bricks, pottery, glass, cement, etc.						
461	Bricks, fireclay and refractory goods					
461/1	Refractory goods including bricks					
	Basic bricks	321.5	343.0	347.0	347.0	365.7
	Fireclay refractories	251.4	262.1	264.3	264.3	272.4
461/2	Non-refractory goods including building bricks					
	Building bricks and clay partition blocks	289.9	292.5	295.1	308.5	313.2
	Facing bricks, fletton (delivered)	226.5	226.5	228.7	243.5	247.9
	Facing bricks, non-fletton (ex-works)	319.2	322.6	324.9	337.9	344.5
	Common building bricks fletton (delivered)	270.0	270.0	272.8	291.0	296.2
	Common building bricks non-fletton (ex-works)	302.9	308.1	310.4	322.4	324.6
	Engineering bricks (ex-works)	301.7	304.6	309.6	315.1	319.0
	Non-refractory goods (other than bricks)	253.8	277.7	280.5	281.0	297.8
	Roofing tiles (ex-works)	351.7	351.7	351.7	351.7	351.7
	Fireclay sanitary ware	248.1	249.7	249.7	255.1	281.0
	Floor quarry tiles (ex-works)	237.2	237.2	237.2	237.2	237.2
462	Pottery	241.2	241.9	246.2	248.6	250.2
462/2	Vitreous china sanitary ware and pottery tiles	231.4	233.1	233.1	235.3	237.1
	Vitreous china sanitary ware	259.5	259.5	259.5	260.3	263.0
	Pottery tiles	209.7	212.8	212.8	216.0	217.2
462/2	Other china and earthenware					
	Domestic earthenware	241.7	241.7	254.4	254.4	254.4
463	Glass					
463/1	Glass (other than containers)					
	Glass products (other than flat glass and containers)	257.8	259.7	261.8	269.5	273.7
	Scientific and machinery glassware (including tubing and rod)	255.3	257.9	262.5	273.1	273.3
	Illuminating glassware	238.4	243.5	243.5	243.5	243.5
	Domestic glassware	233.0	233.0	233.0	234.5	234.8
	Hand gathered domestic glassware	236.0	236.0	236.0	236.0	236.0
463/2	Glass containers					
	Glass containers, for the food processing industry	252.9	266.8	277.6	277.6	277.6
	Glass containers, other than for the food processing industry	257.7	270.1	284.8	284.8 p	284.8
469	Abrasives and building materials not elsewhere specified					
469/1	Abrasives	260.1	262.7	276.4	280.0	280.9
	Abrasive papers and cloths	287.2	294.4	303.4	312.1	314.6
469/2	Building materials not elsewhere specified					
	Pitch fibre pipes	247.9	250.8	250.8	250.8	250.8
	Precast concrete products					
	Precast concrete building blocks (delivered)	269.0	274.8	275.5	278.4	282.2
	Precast concrete building blocks (ex-works)	239.4	247.0	248.0	248.0	251.3
	Precast concrete – flags and kerbs (delivered)	191.3	193.9	193.9	195.4	206.2
	Asbestos cement products	298.6	311.0	311.0	311.0	311.0
	Sandlime bricks	274.6	274.6	274.6	274.6	283.0
	Lime products	254.7	277.8	280.2	282.1 p	297.4
	Agricultural lime	268.1	269.8	291.9	291.9 p	303.8
	Hydrated lime for building and industry	266.1	285.2	288.0	291.5	305.5
	Plaster board	263.0	263.0	278.7	286.5	286.5
	Roofing felt	267.3	267.3	267.3	267.3	279.9
	Fencing	257.2	260.1	260.1	270.6	270.6
Timber, furniture, etc.						
471/1	Timber – sawmilling etc.					
	Homegrown hardwood					
	Homegrown hardwood: ash – sawn	252.3	255.4	258.6	264.1	274.3
	Homegrown hardwood: elm – sawn	222.4	223.1	229.6	229.6	229.6
	Homegrown hardwood: beech – sawn	240.7	240.7	245.7	247.2	247.5
	Homegrown hardwood: oak – sawn	326.3	328.2	332.0	332.0	335.6
	Homegrown hardwood: pallet timber – sawn	269.4	269.4	269.4	283.5	288.2
475	Wooden containers	221.6	224.5	226.8	226.8	227.2
479	Miscellaneous wood and cork manufactures	266.7	269.9	269.9	280.8	281.8
479/3	Other wood manufactures					
	Wood wool – including manufactures	303.3	307.9	307.9	307.9	307.9
Paper, printing and publishing						
481	Paper and board					
	Paper and board – other than building board	284.5	284.6	288.0	289.6	289.6
	Coated paper	268.3	268.5	268.6	269.4	269.4
	Coated paper – off machine	276.9	277.0	277.2	277.2	277.2
	Coated paper – on machine	255.3	255.3	255.3	257.4	257.4
	Uncoated paper	291.2	291.1	292.6	292.8	292.8
	Printings and writings – including newsprint	303.7	303.7	303.7	303.7	303.7
	Kraft wrapping paper	286.9	285.8	285.8	285.8	285.8
	Other wrapping paper	261.7	261.7	271.0	272.5	272.5
	Household and other tissues – including cigarette tissues	294.9	294.9	296.6	297.5	298.3
	Industrial and special purpose papers	284.7	284.7	284.9	284.9	284.7
	Uncoated board	274.7	275.4	286.8	292.1	292.1
	Packaging boards	278.0	279.3	292.5	298.5	298.5
	Boards for industrial and special purposes	265.2	264.3	270.8	274.3	274.3
	Coated board	290.1	290.1	296.2	303.3	303.3
482	Packaging products of paper, board and associated materials	280.3	281.6	283.1	288.4	290.2
482/1	Cardboard boxes, cartons and packing cases – fibreboard					
	Cardboard boxes	256.5	260.7	260.9	263.4	274.4
	Cartons	281.9	282.8	284.8	298.7	300.0
	Cartons – food	277.1	279.8	281.8	291.4	292.4
	Cartons – other than for food	284.0	284.0	286.2	301.9	303.3
	Packing cases – fibreboard	269.0	269.5	271.9	271.9	271.9
	Packing cases – fibreboard – solid	269.4	270.9	289.1	289.6	289.6
	Packing cases – fibreboard – corrugated	268.9	269.3	269.4	269.4	269.4
482/2	Packaging products of paper and associated materials	302.0	302.0	302.0	306.4	309.0
	Paper sacks	317.5	317.5	317.5	317.5	317.5
	Paper sacks – food	316.4	316.4	316.4	316.4	316.4
	Paper sacks – other than for food	318.9	318.9	318.9	318.9	318.9
	Paper bags	318.7	318.7	318.7	322.7	322.0
483	Manufactured stationery					
	Commercial envelopes	282.6	282.6	282.6	282.6	282.6
	Business forms	278.0	277.7	278.0	278.0	280.3
	Counter check books and forms for loose leaf binders	287.1	287.1	288.2	288.4	288.4
	Continuous stationery	286.9	286.6	286.6	286.6	289.6
	Stationery and scholastic books	286.4	286.4	288.6	288.6	288.6
	Loose leaf supplies	334.6	334.6	336.2	341.1	341.1
	Filing supplies	332.6	332.6	333.6	341.4	346.0
484	Manufactures of paper and board not elsewhere specified	262.4	264.3	269.2	270.5	270.5
484/2	Other manufactures of paper and board	272.9	274.8	280.4	282.3	282.3
	Cellulose paper products	259.7	260.9	269.2	271.0	271.0
	Doyleys	310.7	310.7	310.7	310.7	310.7
	Toilet paper	273.9	277.6	283.8	286.9	286.9
	Paper rolls and coils	268.3	268.3	269.5	269.5	269.5
Other manufacturing industries						
491	Rubber manufactures	252.1	255.2	261.2	263.7	265.5
491/2	Rubber goods – other than tyres and tubes	271.9	274.3	279.3	284.1	287.4
	Hose of rubber or plastics	327.6	328.7	332.7	335.0	354.6
	Motor parts and accessories of rubber	281.0	286.2	291.7	291.7	291.7
	Machinery belting of rubber and plastics	382.1	382.8	383.2	402.1	403.2
	Miscellaneous rubber goods	212.7	213.9	223.5	224.3	225.4
493	Brushes and brooms	242.0	245.4	247.7	248.0	248.0
	Decorating brushes and rollers	221.6	226.2	226.2	226.2	226.2
	Toilet brushes	232.7	233.0	246.8	248.3	248.3

Table 4a continued

1968 SIC		1977 Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun p
	Industrial brushes and polishing mops	266.8	266.8	266.8	266.8	266.8
	Household brushes and brooms	255.6	260.4	260.8	260.8	260.8
494	Toys, games, baby carriages and sports equipment	253.4	253.4	255.1	255.1	257.4
494/1	Toys and games	266.5	266.5	266.5	266.5	269.4
	Metal toys	302.9	302.9	302.9	302.9	303.1
	Metal toys – non-mechanical	305.4	305.4	305.4	305.4	305.4
	Dolls and soft toys	253.0	253.0	253.0	253.0	253.0
	Indoor games	225.1	225.1	225.1	225.1	225.1
	Plastics toys	233.8	233.8	233.8	233.8	233.8
	Pedal cars, scooters, toy perambulators and children's tricycles and bicycles	309.5	309.5	309.5	309.5	327.2
	Pedal cars and scooters	290.7	290.7	290.7	290.7	303.6
494/3	Sports equipment	215.3	215.3	220.2	220.2	220.2
495	Miscellaneous stationers' goods	205.1	210.7	211.2	212.3	216.1
495/1	Pens and pencils					
	Pencils – non-mechanical	254.5	280.5	282.5	282.5	282.5
495/2	Stationers' goods – other than pens and pencils	215.0	215.8	215.8	215.8	223.6
496	Plastics products not elsewhere specified	230.5	232.2	236.6	239.0	240.1
	Plastics products – other than components, accessories and semi-manufactured goods	233.1	234.5	239.2	241.9	243.4
	Building materials of plastics	259.4	259.6	266.7	273.0	274.4
	Water services', pipes and fitments of plastics	279.8	281.1	286.1	286.1	286.1
	Other piping and fittings – drainage, effluent, etc.	250.5	250.5	262.8	271.6	272.7
	Builders' hardware of plastics	254.8	254.8	257.4	263.8	266.1
	Domestic, catering and furnishing goods of plastics	217.4	217.4	217.4	221.0	221.4
	Hollow-ware and hardware of plastics – including kitchenware	212.4	212.4	212.4	215.1	215.2
	Plastics dress fasteners	213.1	213.1	213.1	213.1	211.7
	Plastics sleeving	216.8	225.5	228.5	235.8	235.8
	Packaging materials of plastics	230.2	231.4	234.2	236.2	236.3
	Plastics caps, closures, bottles and jars	236.2	238.1	242.2	245.3	244.9
	Plastics foam-upholstery, cushioning and floor covering	232.1	236.6	250.9	250.9	257.2
499/1	Musical instruments	248.1	248.1	248.1	248.1	248.1
	Pianos	282.9	282.9	282.9	282.9	282.9
429, 463, 469, 479, 481	Part Thermal insulation materials	263.8	268.5	272.2	277.7	280.9
Other Commodities						
	Cotton rags	112.6	112.6	112.6	112.6	112.6
	Waste paper	252.5	268.6	277.2	277.2	277.2

§ Producers' price.
* Source of price information: trade publications.
r Revised to be consistent with revised monthly figures.

Addendum to table 4a Confirmation of figures previously published as provisional

1968 SIC		1977 Jan
412 Part	Cotton yarns	337.0
412 Part	Cotton-spun man-made fibres yarns	221.6
421	Narrow fabrics	241.9
421/3	Non-elastic fabrics	252.6
443	Women's and young girls' tailored outerwear	190.4
445	Dresses, lingerie, infants' wear, etc.	176.6
445/3	Infants' wear	160.5

Revisions to Table 4a

1968 SIC		Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
271/3 Part	Bleaching materials	1976	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	216.8	223.7	240.4	241.3
		1977	241.9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
274 Part	Paint: Oil and/or synthetic-based non-aqueous air-drying primers, surfacers and sealers	1977	293.3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
274 Part	Paint: Oil and/or synthetic-based non-aqueous air-drying undercoats	1977	237.4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
274 Part	Paint: Oil and/or synthetic-based non-aqueous air-drying finishes	1977	240.7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
274 Part	Emulsion paints	1977	215.4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
414/5 Part	Woven woollen fabric	1976	—	—	—	237.2	244.2	247.5	251.0	252.6	257.6	276.0	285.0	286.8
		1977	290.1	294.2	294.6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
445/2	Lingerie	1977	194.8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
482/1 Part	Cartons	1976	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	269.2	270.6
482/1 Part	Cartons – other than for food	1976	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	269.4	271.4
496 Part	Plastics sleeving	1977	216.8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Table 4b (see next page) follows table 5

Table 5 United Nations index numbers of world export prices[1]

1970 = 100

		Primary commodities: Total $	£	Purchasers' currencies	Agricultural non-food $	£	Purchasers' currencies	Non-ferrous metals $	£	Purchasers' currencies	Primary commodities and non-ferrous metals[2] $	£	Purchasers' currencies
1974	1st quarter	303	318	274	232	244	209	160	168	144	284	298	256
	2nd quarter	304	304	263	229	229	198	183	183	159	288	287	249
	3rd quarter	309	315	274	221	225	196	142	145	126	287	292	254
	4th quarter	320	330	284	212	213	186	126	130	111	294	303	258
1975	1st quarter	312	313	261	201	202	168	124	124	101	287	287	240
	2nd quarter	299	309	250	198	204	166	121	125	101	275	284	230
	3rd quarter	295	333	261	196	220	173	118	133	105	271	306	240
	4th quarter	301	354	271	191	224	172	116	136	104	276	324	249
1976	1st quarter	306	368	279	202	243	184	120	144	109	281	338	256
	2nd quarter	310	412	289	212	282	198	135	179	126	286	381	267
	3rd quarter	314	427	291	227	308	211	140	190	130	291	395	270
	4th quarter	316	459	290	232	337	213	131	190	120	291	423	267
1977	1st quarter[3]	340	476	311	242	339	221	141	197	129	313	439	285
	2nd quarter[4]	*356*	*497*	*321*	*250*	*349*	*225*	*144*	*201*	*130*	*328*	*457*	*295*
	July[4]	*345*	*481*	*306*	*232*	*323*	*206*	*142*	*197*	*126*	*318*	*443*	*282*

[1] Published by the UN in terms of US dollars. For convenience the index numbers are also shown in sterling and in terms of purchasers' currencies by converting the dollar index at prevailing exchange rates. [2] This combined index is not published as such by the UN. [3] Provisional. [4] Projections by Department of Industry.

Table 5 (see previous page) precedes table 4b

Table 4b Supplementary list of commodities wholly or mainly imported into the United Kingdom (published April, August and December)

1970 = 100

	1977				
	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun p
Crude oilø	840.3	860.7	856.5	861.1	849.1
Imported paper and paperboard (including newsprint)*	328.3	328.1	328.0	328.0	328.0
Imported paper and paperboard (excluding newsprint)*	325.6	325.3	325.1	325.1	325.1
Imported newsprint	340.1	340.1	340.1	340.1	340.1
Timber, imported:					
Mahogany	348.8	354.5	355.9	357.6	358.2
Utile	430.0	433.3	436.4	439.2	440.5
Beech	322.9	338.2	346.6	348.0	348.6
Ramin	366.8	369.2	370.0	367.8	365.0
Meranti	275.9	274.4	276.9	278.2	277.5
Quicksilver, min. 99.99%, cif Europe*	57.9	62.7	55.0	47.5	41.6
Asbestos, Canadian, fob Quebec*	325.6	316.4	315.8	316.7	313.8
Bauxite, Min 86% Al_2O_3*	313.2	313.2	313.2	313.2	399.8
Manganese ore 48-50% Mn grade, Max. 0.1%P., cif Europe*	393.2	392.7	392.3	392.3	347.1
Tungsten ore, Min. 65%, cif Europe*	312.8	322.0	322.7	324.9	325.9
Phosphate rock	370.8	368.6	368.7	368.5	348.3
Phosphate rock for fertiliser manufacture	374.6	371.9	372.0	371.7	346.8
Hides and skins:					
Native	425.8	448.8	456.0	432.3	317.7
Imported	344.5	344.0	361.4	358.7	328.4
Imported, wet	308.8	306.8	319.2	306.1	275.7
Imported, dry	309.5	309.5	327.5	327.5	332.5
Raw silk	210.9	210.6	213.9	214.8	214.8
Raw jute:					
BWD grade, c and f Dundee*	139.7	140.9	139.7	139.6	140.2
BWC grade, c and f Dundee*	170.1	171.4	168.6	169.4	169.8
BTC grade, c and f Dundee*	169.5	170.3	168.8	169.3	169.8
BTD grade, c and f Dundee*	172.3	173.3	172.1	172.6	172.9
Flax	445.0	469.3	466.0	453.8	448.1
Sisal	510.8	511.9	510.7	510.6	510.4
Gum arabic, Kordofan, ex-wharf London*	293.7	293.7	293.7	293.7	293.7
Rosin gum, WW Portuguese*	206.4	206.0	199.3	191.4	194.6
Woodpulp, imported:					
For use in paper and boardmaking industries	354.1	352.9	351.5	351.6	351.1
Chemical	343.1	341.7	341.2	341.3	341.2
Sulphite bleached	342.3	340.9	340.4	340.5	340.4
Sulphate bleached and semi-bleached	336.9	335.5	335.0	335.2	335.0
Sulphate unbleached, kraft	373.7	372.1	371.5	371.7	371.5
Wood rosin, American FF*	258.6	258.6	257.5	254.5	254.5
Castor oil, Brazilian No. 1 grade*	395.2	406.8	485.8	467.8	443.4
Soya beans, US No. 2 grade, cif UK*	342.5	380.2	453.7	440.4	382.5
Linseed, Canadian No. 1, cif UK*	360.4	362.1	401.4	375.1	336.2
Copra, Philippine, cif Europe*	248.4	327.9	329.7	316.1	268.6
Palm kernels, Nigerian, cif basis-ports*	264.1	313.1	347.9	342.0	295.9
Olive oil, Spanish, edible max. 1% ffa*	434.4	434.4	434.4	434.4	434.4
Fish oil, cif, east coast UK*	250.7	279.6	311.5	328.3	317.2
Palm oil, crude, London, spot price*	296.1	352.5	379.8	384.3	366.5
Linseed oil, cif London/Hull*	325.8	357.1	404.8	370.5	328.6
Coconut oil, cif Europe*	240.8	311.4	334.3	303.5	261.3
Groundnut oil, London, spot price*	355.3	361.8	365.8	380.6	370.3
Lemongrass oil, Cochin, spot price*	207.8	208.8	206.9	227.7	211.6
Citronella oil, Sri Lanka, spot price*	196.3	164.3	229.1	129.1	131.7
Lime oil, West Indian, distilled, spot price*	181.3	181.3	181.3	181.3	181.3
Clove oil, Madagascan, crude, spot price*	198.2	174.6	174.6	189.1	189.1
Sandalwood oil, Indian, spot price*	166.9	233.5	243.6	243.6	239.6
Peppermint oil*	217.1	217.1	234.0	263.5	252.6
Geranium oil, Bourbon, spot price*	271.3	271.8	272.4	272.4	272.4
Eucalyptus oil, Portuguese, spot price*	103.5	104.3	118.5	118.5	118.5

ø Based on unit value of imports at their time of entry.
* Source of price information: trade publications.
p Provisional.

Revisions to table 4b

	Year	Oct
Quicksilver, min. 99.99%, cif Europe*	1976	35.7
Linseed oil, cif London/Hull*	1976	353.8

More about wholesale prices

01-215 3544 tables 1 and 2
01-215 3549 engineering
01-215 5216 chemicals, steel, building materials, etc
01-215 3548 textiles, clothing, timber, paper, etc
01-215 3173 imported commodities

Engineering sales and orders up to May

SIC orders VII, VIII and IX

Provisional trend estimates and seasonally adjusted volume indices of engineering sales and orders up to May suggest that demand from the home market continues very weak, but prospects on the export front are more encouraging. New domestic orders, orders-on-hand and sales all decreased, but these movements were largely offset by rises in the export series. Overall there was a marginal decrease in the intake of new orders and a slightly larger one in sales, whilst total order books appear to have begun to lengthen.

The inflow of new orders from the home market has been relatively weak for the last two months, resulting in a decrease in trend of 3 per cent between February and May; owing to the great volatility of the new orders series, it is difficult to assess how significant this setback it. Domestic sales remain depressed, falling by a further 3 per cent to a very low level. The declining trend of home orders-on-hand was temporarily checked at the beginning of the year, but these have eased back further since then, with a slight decrease of 1 per cent over the three months to May.

The trend of new contracts from abroad had fallen off somewhat from the very high levels reached in the second half of last year, but has since risen again, by 4.5 per cent during the three months to May, according to trend estimates. This improvement results, however, from an exceptionally high May figure, most of which can be attributed to one very large order in the heavy mechanical engineering industry. Export sales, which had been flat for several months, displayed a marginal increase in trend between February and May. The intake of new orders continued at a higher level than sales, so the trend of export order books lengthened by a further 1½ per cent during the same period.

The net effect of these contrasting movements in home and export markets resulted in a marginal decrease in total new orders, and a 1½ per cent fall in the trend of total sales during the three months to May. New orders as a whole have consistently been above sales in recent months, leading to some increase in total orders-on-hand; however, this recent improvement is not large enough to have affected the trend of total engineering order books, which has remained practically unchanged since last autumn.

The revised figures published in this table are based on the Monthly Engineering Inquiry relating to May 1977. The response rate of 81 per cent to the inquiry for May is judged sufficient to justify publication of provisional indices for this month. Taking into account late returns now received for February, March and April 1977, response rates for these months were 94, 93 and 87 per cent respectively.

When using the volume index numbers and trends shown in the accompanying table, it should be borne in mind that, when price increases are large, the various problems associated with revaluation of the values of engineering sales and orders to constant prices become more acute. Because of these difficulties the relative accuracy of the volume estimates is likely to have been reduced in recent months and studies are currently in hand to ascertain the possible directions and magnitudes of any biasses, which may lead to revision in due course.

An expanded commentary, together with additional tables, is given in Business Monitor PM 33-36, Engineering (volume indices of sales and orders), obtainable from HMSO, PO Box 569, London SE1 9NH, post free for a subscription of £2.22 per annum. Separate commentaries and volume indices are given for sales, orders-on-hand and net new orders for total, home and export markets, for mechanical, instrument and electrical engineering (SIC Orders VII, VIII and IX respectively).

Inquiries: Department of Industry, Room 618, Dean Bradley House, 52 Horseferry Road, London SW1P 2AG, tel. 01-212 5770.

Index numbers for the combined engineering industries (SIC orders VII, VIII and IX)[1]

Volume index numbers: Orders-on-hand, December 1970 unadjusted = 100
Net new orders and sales, 1970 average monthly sales = 100

	Total			Home			Export		
	Orders-on-hand (end of period)	Net new orders	Sales	Orders-on-hand (end of period)	Net new orders	Sales	Orders-on-hand (end of period)	Net new orders	Sales
Trend estimates									
1975									
July	110	91	107	105	86	104	122	103	115
August	108	90	106	102	85	103	120	101	114
September	106	88	105	99	84	102	118	99	113
October	103	87	104	96	83	101	116	96	112
November	101	87	103	94	83	100	114	95	112
December	99	87	103	92	84	99	112	94	112
1976									
January	97	88	103	90	86	98	110	94	114
February	95	90	103	89	88	98	108	96	116
March	93	93	104	87	89	99	106	101	117
April	92	95	105	86	90	100	105	106	118
May	91	97	105	84	90	100	104	113	119
June	90	100	105	83	91	100	105	121	118
July	90	103	105	82	93	100	106	128	118
August	90	106	105	81	94	100	108	133	118
September	90	108	105	81	95	100	110	137	117
October	91	108	106	80	96	101	112	137	118
November	91	108	106	79	97	101	114	135	118
December	91	108	106	79	98	101	115	131	118
1977									
January	91	107	105	78	98	100	116	129	118
February	91	107	105	78	98	99	117	127	118
March	91	106	104	77	98	98	118	127	118
April	91	106	104	77	97	98	118	129	118
May	91	106	103	77	95	96	119	132	119
Percentage change[2] Feb-May 1977	—	−0.5	−1.5	−1.0	−3.0	−3.0	+1.5	+4.5	+0.5
Seasonally adjusted									
1969	101	100	97	102	99	99	100	102	91
1970	100	99	100	100	99	100	100	100	100
1971	93	97	101	95	98	101	89	93	102
1972	99	103	101	103	108	105	90	91	92
1973	133	134	113	134	136	117	131	131	102
1974	128	109	111	123	105	111	139	118	113
1975	99	90	108	91	87	105	113	98	115
1976	91	100	105	78	92	100	117	119	117
1975									
1st quarter	119	89	112	114	89	110	128	89	118
2nd quarter	113	95	109	108	92	106	124	102	115
3rd quarter	106	90	107	100	86	103	118	101	114
4th quarter	99	85	103	91	80	100	113	98	112
1976									
1st quarter	94	92	103	88	90	98	106	96	116
2nd quarter	90	95	106	83	90	101	103	107	119
3rd quarter	90	107	106	81	96	101	109	133	118
4th quarter	91	106	105	78	92	99	117	141	118
1977									
1st quarter	91	109	105	77	102	100	117	124	117
1975									
July	109	84	109	104	77	105	121	99	120
August	108	93	102	102	84	99	121	115	110
September	106	94	109	100	96	107	118	88	113
October	103	84	107	96	79	104	116	96	112
November	101	85	103	94	83	98	113	89	114
December	99	87	100	91	77	96	113	110	110
1976									
January	96	84	102	89	84	98	109	82	114
February	95	95	101	89	94	96	108	97	113
March	94	97	106	88	92	100	106	109	120
April	92	92	108	86	89	103	105	100	120
May	90	94	107	84	89	102	103	104	120
June	90	99	102	83	91	97	103	118	116
July	90	105	104	82	84	97	108	157	120
August	90	103	104	81	95	100	109	122	114
September	90	112	109	81	109	105	109	119	119
October	91	107	105	80	91	100	112	146	117
November	92	113	106	80	98	99	116	149	120
December	91	98	105	78	87	99	117	126	117
1977									
January	90	110	105	77	102	100	116	129	118
February	91	110	105	78	108	101	116	116	116
March	91	106	106	77	97	100	117	128	118
April	91	103	103	77	96	96	117	119	120
May	92	108	101	77	89	94	122	154	119
Dec 76-Feb 77 (av.)	91	106	105	78	99	100	116	124	117
Mar-May 1977 (av.)	92	106	103	77	94	97	122	134	119
Percentage change[2]	+1.0	−0.5	−1.5	−1.5	−4.5	−3.0	+4.5	+8.0	+2.0

[1] All figures are provisional.
[2] For orders-on-hand, the percentage changes compare the level at the end of the latest period shown with the corresponding level for the earlier period. The percentage changes have been based on the unrounded values and are given to the nearest half percentage point.

Retail sales: provisional estimate for July

Volume

The provisional estimate of the seasonally adjusted index of the volume of retail sales in July is 107½ (1971 = 100).

The estimate suggests a rather higher level of trade than in recent months with the recovery concentrated in the sales of non-food shops. Retail trade in July may have been influenced by comparatively buoyant annual 'sales' and by the postponement this year of some 'sales', particularly in Central London, from June until July.

In the three months May to July the volume of total sales was 1 per cent higher than in the previous three months.

Value

Based on non-seasonally adjusted data, the provisional estimate of the value of total retail sales in July was 16 per cent higher than in July 1976. In the first seven months of 1977, the average value of sales was 14 per cent higher than in the corresponding period of 1976.

Retail sales: volume and value

	Volume seasonally adjusted index (1971 = 100)		Value not seasonally adjusted – percentage change compared with a year earlier
1976		*1976*	
1st qtr	107.3	1st qtr	+15
2nd qtr	107.6	2nd qtr	+12
3rd qtr	*108.9*	*3rd qtr*	*+15*
4th qtr	108.5	4th qtr	+16
1977		*1977*	
1st qtr	105.0	1st qtr	+14
2nd qtr	103.9	2nd qtr	+13
1976		*1976*	
April	108.8	April	+6
May	*106.8*	*May*	*+16*
June	107.3	June	+13
July	108.8	July	+14
1977		*1977*	
April	103.4	April	+12
May	*104.4*	*May*	*+14*
June	103.8	June	+14
July	107.5 p	July	+16 p

p Provisional

Notes

The volume index is given to the nearest half per cent. The percentage increase in value compared with a year earlier is given to the nearest whole number.

Estimates are based on early returns to the monthly inquiry. These returns cover approaching one half, by turnover, of information available at the final stage. Past evidence suggests that the average error (ignoring sign) in the provisional estimates will be about 0.5 per cent. However, as with all estimates based on partial data, caution must be exercised in interpreting a single month's figures.

When using the volume figures, it should be borne in mind that, when price increases are large, the various problems associated with revaluation of the value series to constant prices become more acute. Thus, the relative

accuracy with which volume changes have been measured is likely to have been reduced in recent periods.

The value estimates are compiled inclusive of VAT, and will, therefore, reflect changes in the rates of VAT. The volume estimates, however, are not affected by these changes since the retail price indices used to 'deflate' the value data are themselves inclusive of VAT.

The seasonally adjusted series include, where appropriate, adjustments for the timing of holidays (including the extra Jubilee bank holiday) and adjustments to make allowance for the inclusion of an extra week in the January 1975 trading period. No adjustments are made to the non-seasonally adjusted data.

The final figures for July will be published in a press notice on Tuesday, 6 September 1977.

Inquiries: 01-215 3705.

Retailers' stocks in June

Based on the non-seasonally adjusted data of table 1, the level of stocks at book value in June was 27 per cent higher than a year earlier; at constant prices the rise was 8 per cent.

The estimate of the value of the physical increase in retailers' stocks at 1970 prices and seasonally adjusted suggests an increase of £43 million in June following a decrease of similar size in May. The seasonally adjusted volume of retail sales fell sharply during the first quarter of 1977 and remained at this lower level through the second quarter. The level of stocks at the end of June appears high compared with the level of sales.

Notes

The book value of retailers' stocks in the United Kingdom at the end of December 1971 was £1,886 million.

With the introduction of VAT, the book values are being valued exclusive of this tax. There is, therefore, a discontinuity in the series in 1973 between March and April. For the year up to March, 1974, the usual comparisons with a year earlier for the book value series have not been given. From April, 1974, the basis of valuation is comparable with that of a year earlier and the percentages changes have been re-introduced. The estimates at constant prices take account of this method of valuation, and are on a consistent basis throughout.

For the estimates at constant prices, it should be borne in mind that, when price increases are large, the various problems associated with revaluation of the value series to constant prices become more acute. Thus, the relative accuracy with which constant price changes have been measured is likely to have been reduced in recent periods.

The statistics given in table 2 were introduced in an article in the issue of 28 March 1975.

Long-run series back to 1966 for both table 1 and table 2 were included in the article in the issue of 17 September 1976.

Inquiries: 01-215 3220.

TABLE 1 Level of retailers' stocks

Index numbers (end 1971 = 100) *and percentage increase on a year earlier* — At cost at end of month

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
All book values												
1971	89	91	94	95	95	97	95	95	98	106	110	100
1972	96	99	101	102	102	105	102	102	104	113	119	106
1973	103	107	112	112	112	117	116	118	123	134	143	132
1974	128	129	135	139	144	145	144	143	149	161	171	154
1975	148	151	158	154	159	161	160	160	170	187	201	181
1976	172	174	184	185	184	184	180	181	193	215	230	207
1977	199	203	223	227	227	234						
1972	8	8	8	7	8	8	7	8	7	7	8	6
1973	8	8	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1974	—	—	—	24	28	24	24	21	21	20	19	17
1975	15	17	17	11	11	11	11	12	15	16	18	18
1976	16	15	17	20	16	14	13	13	14	15	14	14
1977	16	17	21	23	23	27						
At constant (1970) prices												
1971	94	96	98	98	97	99	96	96	98	106	111	100
1972	95	97	100	100	100	102	99	99	101	108	114	101
1973	98	101	105	110	114	117	115	115	119	127	135	123
1974	118	117	120	121	122	121	119	117	119	126	132	117
1975	110	109	113	108	109	110	107	106	112	122	129	115
1976	108	109	114	113	112	112	108	108	113	124	130	115
1977	109	109	118	119	117	120						
1972	1	2	2	2	3	4	3	4	2	2	3	1
1973	3	4	5	10	13	15	16	16	18	18	19	22
1974	21	16	14	9	8	3	3	1	−1	−1	−2	−5
1975	−7	−6	−6	−11	−11	−10	−10	−9	−6	−4	−2	−1
1976	−1	−1	1	5	2	2	1	1	2	2	1	—
1977	1	—	3	4	4	8						

TABLE 2 Value of physical increase of retailers' stocks at 1970 prices

Seasonally adjusted — £ million

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
1971	−11	3	−8	2	−12	17	−7	16	5	24	−14	7
1972	−7	9	−1	13	6	21	−16	25	−22	9	−6	−16
1973	34	25	23	106	57	42	15	21	12	3	11	33
1974	12	−50	—	33	25	−39	10	−24	−25	−4	−19	−30
1975	−19	−30	11	−76	20	−10	5	−6	39	41	15	−13
1976	−24	−10	46	−5	−25	−25	−14	5	31	52	−2	−28
1977	−7	−22	109	19	−35	43						

Index of industrial production for June

The provisional estimate for the total all-industries' index in June 1977 is 100.7 and that for manufacturing alone is 100.9 (1970 = 100).

The sharp fall in the indices for all-industries and manufacturing industries in June 1977 reflected, in part, the changes in public holidays (see final paragraph). After making broad allowance for this and other factors, the provisional estimates still suggest that the underlying level of industrial output fell slightly between the first and second quarters of this year.

Before any adjustment, the provisional estimates show that the average levels of the all-industries' index and the corresponding index for manufacturing industries in the second quarter of 1977 were some ½ per cent and 1½ per cent below their levels in the preceding quarter. The analysis by broad market sectors shows that, over the same period, the output of the consumer goods, intermediate goods and investment goods industries fell by about 1½, 1 and ½ per cent, respectively.

On a longer term comparison, the all-industries index and the index for manufacturing industries were broadly unchanged from their levels in the same period a year ago.

The use of series for some industries which measure deliveries rather than production resulted in the all-industries' index understating the level of output in the first quarter of 1976 by about ¼ per cent, overstating it by ¾ per cent in the second and third quarters, and understating it again by about ½ per cent in the fourth quarter of 1976 and by about ¼ per cent in the first quarter of 1977.

Seasonal adjustment

The index numbers are all seasonally adjusted. The seasonal adjustment process is designed to remove annually recurring month to month variations due, for example, to the incidence of holidays and other regular seasonal patterns of behaviour. The adjustments, however, can in general only be derived from analysis of past experience and may not be completely appropriate when holiday patterns change sharply. Changes in recent years in the amount and incidence of industrial holidays taken between Christmas and new year's day and around the spring bank holiday may not be fully reflected in the seasonally adjusted estimates.

The provisional estimates for May and June 1977 are particularly vulnerable to distortions because of holiday effects. The spring bank holiday, usually taken in May, was taken on 6 June in 1977 in England and Wales. Furthermore, an extra public holiday was taken throughout the United Kingdom on 7 June 1977 to celebrate the Queen's silver jubilee. The current assessment of the underlying level makes broad allowance for these effects.

Inquiries: 01-215 3158.

Index of industrial production

Seasonally adjusted — 1970 = 100

	Total all industries	All industries other than construction	Mining and quarrying	Manufacturing industries												
				Total	Food, drink and tobacco					Engineering and allied industries						
					Total	Food	Drink and tobacco	Coal and petroleum products	Chemicals and allied industries	Total	Mechanical engineering	Instrument engineering	Electrical engineering	Shipbuilding and marine engineering	Total vehicles	Metal goods n.e.s.
Weights	1,000	850	37	745	84	52	32	7	58	319	100	15	67	16	73	48
1971	100.3	99.9	100.0	99.5	100.6	99.9	101.9	103.3	102.1	98.9	98.0	103.3	101.7	98.7	100.2	93.3
1972	102.5	102.1	84.1	102.1	104.9	104.0	106.5	102.5	108.1	99.3	94.1	102.0	106.6	89.5	104.0	95.4
1973	110.0	110.6	92.6	110.7	109.3	106.3	114.2	110.0	120.9	107.5	102.8	110.2	121.3	90.6	107.6	102.9
1974	107.0	108.6	78.8	109.1	109.9	104.5	118.8	106.0	127.8	108.7	107.2	118.0	122.6	92.4	103.0	103.6
1975	101.8	103.3	86.0	102.5	108.7	101.1	121.1	92.0	116.8	103.7	105.2	118.6	113.2	97.7	96.7	95.0
1976	102.3	104.6	89.2	103.5	110.7	103.5	122.7	96.3	128.7	99.8	97.1	114.3	110.4	92.0	96.8	92.9
1976 1st qtr	102.0	103.6	87.6	102.2	106.2	100.5	115.4	94.5	124.3	99.4	99.4	110.9	106.9	91.9	96.3	92.6
2nd qtr	102.5	104.6	88.8	103.7	112.6	105.2	124.9	96.5	128.0	100.3	98.6	115.8	110.3	91.4	97.2	92.6
3rd qtr	101.6	104.2	86.4	103.7	112.5	103.6	127.1	96.2	129.6	99.7	96.1	111.2	111.7	92.9	97.1	92.9
4th qtr	103.0	105.9	94.1	104.5	111.7	104.6	123.4	98.0	133.0	99.7	94.5	119.1	112.8	91.7	96.7	93.5
1977 1st qtr	103.5	107.4	103.6	105.4	111.4	104.9	122.1	96.6	132.0	100.9	96.2	116.8	114.2	89.3	97.6	96.4
2nd qtr	102.8	106.2	106.3	103.8	112.8	106.0	123.8	94.7	129.8	100.8	95.2	119.8	113.2	89.2	99.1	95.7
Apr	102.4	104.5	89	103.4	112	105	124	99	127	100	99	115	109	94	96	92
May	104.5	107.0	89	106.5	113	107	123	92	127	102	99	116	110	86	103	99
June	100.5	102.3	88	101.2	112	103	127	98	130	98	98	116	111	95	92	87
Jul	101.5	104.1	85	103.8	112	104	126	95	127	101	96	111	111	89	106	90
Aug	100.7	103.2	87	102.7	111	103	125	91	128	99	97	111	112	95	90	96
Sept	102.5	105.3	88	104.5	114	104	130	103	134	99	95	112	112	94	95	93
Oct	102.7	105.5	91	104.8	111	105	122	101	130	100	94	118	112	85	98	96
Nov	103.3	106.2	95	104.9	113	106	123	98	137	100	95	119	113	95	99	92
Dec	103.1	105.9	96	103.7	111	103	125	94	133	99	95	120	113	95	93	93
1977 Jan	103.6	107.6	102	105.2	108	104	114	92	126	101	96	117	114	81	100	96
Feb	103.6	107.5	104	105.7	113	106	124	102	135	100	96	117	114	92	93	98
Mar	103.2	107.1	105	105.4	113	105	128	96	135	101	96	117	114	95	100	95
Apr	103.0	106.5	105	104.2	113	106	124	95	131	102	95	118	113	87	102	97
May	104.6	108.3	107	106.3	113	107	123	92	131	104	95	120	113	90	106	103
Jun p	100.7	103.7	107	100.9	113	105	125	97	127	97	95	121	113	90	89	87
% change latest 3 months on previous 3 months	−0.7	−1.1	+2.7	−1.6	+1.2	+1.1	+1.4	−2.0	−1.6	−0.2	−1.1	+2.6	−0.9	−0.2	+1.5	−0.8
on a year earlier	+0.3	+1.5	+19.7	—	+0.1	+0.8	−0.9	−1.9	+1.4	+0.5	−3.4	+3.4	+2.6	−2.4	+2.0	+3.3

	Manufacturing industries (continued)												Construction	Gas, electricity and water
	Metal manufacture			Textiles, leather and clothing				Bricks, pottery, glass, etc						
	Total	Ferrous	Non-ferrous	Total	Textiles	Leather leather goods and fur	Clothing and footwear	Total	Bricks, cement, etc	Pottery and glass	Timber, furniture, etc	Paper, printing and publishing	Other manufacturing industries		
Weights	57	43	14	76	49	3	24	27	17	10	22	64	31	146	72
1971	91.3	89.8	95.8	102.2	100.6	103.0	105.4	108.1	107.0	109.8	103.0	97.3	99.8	103.1	103.9
1972	91.4	89.4	97.3	104.5	102.9	104.5	107.8	115.2	115.1	115.3	113.5	102.6	104.3	104.9	111.4
1973	100.0	97.3	108.5	110.1	108.6	101.1	114.6	126.0	123.7	129.5	132.6	112.1	116.6	107.0	118.1
1974	91.7	87.7	104.2	103.1	99.2	94.9	112.2	116.6	108.3	129.5	112.1	108.8	114.5	97.9	118.7
1975	78.6	74.2	92.2	99.5	93.8	92.9	112.2	107.7	99.7	120.4	110.2	95.6	105.4	92.6	120.6
1976	85.2	82.0	95.2	101.6	97.4	95.6	111.2	110.8	101.6	125.1	111.9	97.6	114.9	88.9	123.4
1976 1st qtr	83.2	79.7	94.1	102.5	98.5	98.5	111.5	111.5	104.9	121.8	112.0	95.9	112.0	92.5	127.2
2nd qtr	87.8	84.9	96.9	99.5	95.2	92.8	109.3	108.8	101.2	120.6	110.7	98.0	113.2	90.0	121.8
3rd qtr	84.6	81.5	94.4	101.3	97.1	94.6	110.9	112.7	102.1	129.3	112.2	97.4	113.9	86.2	118.6
4th qtr	85.3	82.0	95.5	103.1	98.8	96.3	113.1	110.2	98.4	128.7	112.6	99.2	120.5	86.8	125.8
1977 1st qtr	85.7	81.2	99.7	105.4	99.7	97.6	118.3	108.0	95.2	128.2	110.4	101.9	125.0	80.8	129.4
2nd qtr p	82.4	78.8	93.5	101.1	95.5	97.9	113.2	106.2	93.2	126.5	98.9	100.3	117.7		130.8
Apr	85	81	96	99	96	93	107	109	103	119	111	99	113		124
May	102	101	108	104	99	93	116	109	101	123	117	99	115		121
June	76	73	87	95	91	93	105	108	100	120	104	96	112		121
Jul	86	82	97	100	96	95	108	113	101	133	111	99	109		117
Aug	86	84	91	101	97	95	110	110	101	125	112	97	109		117
Sept	82	78	94	103	98	95	114	114	105	130	114	97	123		122
Oct	90	86	101	103	99	96	113	108	98	125	118	101	118		119
Nov	85	84	89	102	98	96	110	112	98	132	111	97	124		125
Dec	81	76	96	104	99	96	117	111	99	129	109	99	119		133
1977 Jan	92	89	102	107	103	98	116	107	92	129	112	101	124		135
Feb	84	79	99	107	100	98	122	107	96	124	111	103	127		128
Mar	81	75	98	103	97	98	117	111	98	132	108	102	124		126
Apr	79	73	99	101	96	98	113	106	92	127	102	101	119		130
May	87	84	94	104	97	98	118	110	95	135	105	101	123		130
Jun p	81	80	87	98	94	98	108	102	93	118	89	99	111		132
% change latest 3 months on previous 3 months	−3.9	−3.0	−6.2	−4.1	−4.3	+0.3	−4.4	−1.7	−2.1	−1.3	−10.4	−1.6	−5.8		+1.1
on a year earlier	−6.2	−7.2	−3.5	+1.6	+0.3	+5.6	+3.5	−2.4	−7.9	+4.9	−10.6	+2.3	+4.0		+7.4

p Provisional.

Registrations of British, community and foreign films

The following are details of films registered by the Department of Trade under the Films Acts 1960 to 1970, as amended by the European Communities Act 1972, during the week ended Friday, 12 August 1977.

BR/E indicates that the film is a British quota film, EC that the film is a quota film. The date which forms part of the registration number of each is the date on which quota life of the film expires.

Title of film	Registered no.	Playing time minutes	Date of registration	Registered in the name of	Maker's name
BRITISH					
Confessions From a Holiday Camp	BR/E 39273/14/8/82	88	9 August	Columbia-Warner Distributors Ltd	Swiftdown Ltd
Movietone News 2514	BR/E 39181/14/8/82	8	12 August	British Movietonews Ltd	British Movietonews Ltd
COMMUNITY					
La Cecilia	EC 39272/14/8/82	105	8 August	The Other Cinema	Filmoblic and C.E.C.R.T. Paris, Saba Cinematografica and Nuovi Orientamenti Cinematografici, Rome
Story Of Adele H	EC 39274/14/8/82	98	9 August	Hemdale International Films Ltd	Films du Carrosse Productions Artistes Associes and Simar Films, Paris
The Hidden Gun	EC 39275/14/8/82	101	9 August	Hemdale International Films Ltd	Mercure Productions and Les Productions Artistes Associes, Paris and TIT Film Produktion, Munich
Anger In His Eyes	EC 39277/14/8/82	98	10 August	Columbia-Warner Distributors Ltd	Giovine Cinematografica S.A.S., Rome
FOREIGN					
Shadow Of The Hawk	F 39276	92	10 August	Columbia-Warner Distributors Ltd	Rising Road Production International Cinemedia Center, Montreal
Housewife	F 39278	6	11 August	Artificial Eye Film Co Ltd	National Film Board of Canada
The Middle Of The World	F 39279	115	11 August	Artificial Eye Film Co Ltd	Action Films and Citel Films, Switzerland
The Seductress	F 39280	98	12 August	Lancair Film Distributors Ltd	Crown International, California
The Working Girls	F 39281	80	12 August	Lancair Film Distributors Ltd	Dimensions Pictures Inc, California
Fire Sale	F 39282	88	12 August	Twentieth Century Fox Film Co Ltd	Twentieth Century-Fox Film Corporation Inc, California

AMENDMENTS TO THE REGISTER

The registration number of the film 'Le Desire' registered on 11 June 1976 has been amended to EC/38657/13/6/81 and the name of the maker to Contrechamp-Saint-Ouen.

The registration number of the film 'Fellini's Casanova' registered on 22 July 1977 has been amended to EC/39256/24/7/82.

Invisible trade

In the item on invisible exports on page 267 of the 12 August 1977 issue of *Trade and Industry* the reference to the 'economists advisory group' should have read 'Economists Advisory Group Ltd'.

Catering and footwear

Pressure of space has required quarterly articles on the catering trades and the footwear industry to be held over until next week. Brief details for the catering trades are given in our This Week section (page 307) and further information can be obtained by phoning 01-215 3177. For information on footwear statistics, phone 01-212 6787.

Index to statistics published regularly in 'Trade and Industry'

(a) annually (m) monthly (q) quarterly

Air transport: trade by air (a) 1 Jul 77
Balance of payments
current account (m) This week
overseas royalties 12 Aug 77
trends in invisibles 29 Apr 77
see also Overseas trade of the UK
Business names and limited partnerships (a) 18 Feb 77
Capital expenditure: manufacturing, distributive and service industries (q) 8 Jul 77
by regions 18 Feb 77
Catering trades turnover (q) 20 May 77
Census of production (a) 28 Jan 77
Check trading (a) 12 Aug 77
Chemicals industry activity (q) 1 Jul 77
Companies
acquisitions and mergers (q) 12 Aug 77
insolvencies (q) 5 Aug 77
liquidity (q) 10 Jun 77
new registrations:
Gt. Britain (m) 22 Jul 77
N. Ireland (m) 12 Aug 77
rate of return on capital (a) 8 Oct 76
structure of company financing 4 Feb 77
Construction work overseas (a) 15 Oct 76
EEC economic indicators *see* Foreign trade
Energy trends (m) 12 Aug 77
Engineering industries: sales and orders (m) This week
Film industry
British Film Fund Agency returns (m) 5 Aug 77
cinema admissions and takings (m) 12 Aug 77
exhibitors quota returns (a) 6 May 77
overseas payments and earnings (a) 20 Aug 76
registrations of films (a) 4 Feb 77
Food
consumption levels (6m) 25 Mar 77
household consumption (q) 1 Jul 77
Footwear industry: production, orders and deliveries (m) 22 Jul 77
Foreign trade: industrial countries' economic indicators (m) 5 Aug 77
quarterly analysis (a) 3 Jun 77
see also Overseas trade of the UK
Hire-purchase business (m) 12 Aug 77
Industrial production
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Wales (q) 29 Jul 77
Insurance companies: investments and assets (a) 20 Aug 76
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industry's investment intentions (3 times a year) 10 Jun 77
investment and earnings overseas (a) 5 Aug 77
Made-up clothing: orders and deliveries (m) 22 Jul 77
Man-made fibres
deliveries (q) 10 Jun 77
production (m) 12 Aug 77
production: quarterly analysis (q) 10 Jun 77
Metal-working machine tools (m) 5 Aug 77
Motor industry
car and commercial vehicle production (m) 5 Aug 77
estimated figures (m) 12 Aug 77
motor trade turnover (q) 27 May 77
Office development permits (q) 27 May 77
Official reserves (m) 5 Aug 77
Overseas trade of the UK
direct exporters and credit terms (a) 12 Aug 77
analysis of trends (q) 3 Jun 77
backrun (a) 11 Mar 77
export prospects (q) 17 June 77
invoicing in foreign currencies 22 Apr 77
see also Balance of payments
Pension funds: investments and assets (a) 20 Aug 76
Regional development grants (q) 12 Aug 77
Research and development expenditure 24 Jun 77 and 1 Jul 77
Retail prices index (m) This week
Retail trades
sales (m) 12 Aug 77
provisional figures (m) 22 Jul 77
sales, N. Ireland 25 Feb 77
stocks (m) This week
Royalties: overseas transactions (a) 12 Aug 77
Selective assistance
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section 8 (q) 24 Jun 77
Shipping: nationality of vessels in UK sea-borne trade (a) 9 Jul 76
Steel: consumption and stocks (q) 1 Apr 77
Stocks
manufacturers' and distributors' (q) 8 Jul 77
manufacturers' (m) 29 Jul 77
retail (m) This week
Television: overseas payments and earnings (a) 20 Aug 76
Textiles
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cotton industry production (m) 22 Jul 77
hosiery production (m) 12 Aug 77
wholesale houses' sales and stocks (m) 5 Aug 77
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wool output (m) 22 Jul 77
Tourism
overseas travel and tourism (a) 29 Jul 77
overseas travel and tourism (q) 29 Jul 77
Wholesale prices
average prices of selected commodities (a) 13 May 77
index numbers (m) This week

Organisational information

Commercial representation guide 8 Apr 77
Customs notices of interest to exporters 1 Oct 76
ECGD local offices 12 Aug 77
ECGD lines of credit 1 Apr 77
Government statistics guide 15 Jul 77
Guide to departments 15 Apr 77
OTAR contact points 12 Aug 77
Release dates of economic statistics 29 Jul 77
Trade promotions guide 29 Jul 77

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503	513	523	533	543	553	563	573	583	593	603	613	623	633	643	653	663	673	683	693
504	514	524	534	544	554	564	574	584	594	604	614	624	634	644	654	664	674	684	694
505	515	525	535	545	555	565	575	585	595	605	615	625	635	645	655	665	675	685	695
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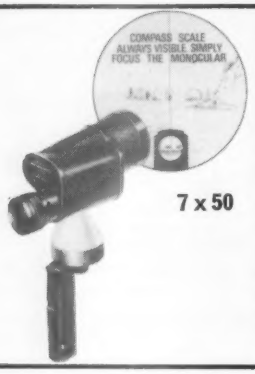

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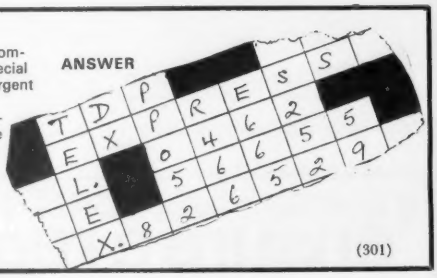

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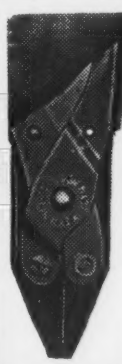

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